THE LOCALS' CHOICE SINCE 2001

Beachcomber

Jan. 2-Feb. 5, 2020

BeachcomberDestin.com

FOOD
Healthy Recipes for a New You
PAGE 9

PEOPLE
Building Dreams with Steve Ingram
PAGE 21

FITNESS
Don't Sweat the New Year
PAGE 15

MUSIC
Gileah Taylor's Life Changing Songs
PAGE 25

WHEN WE TELL YOU

Fresh from the Gulf...

We mean it. Our secret to fresh Gulf seafood comes from our very own wild fish processing facility, known as the Seafood Commissary. Located at The Boardwalk on Okaloosa Island, this commissary is the hub for all locally-sourced seafood for all of our waterfront restaurants. With deliveries arriving daily straight from the harbor, each year the commissary prepares over 250,000lbs of fresh-caught Gulf seafood such as shrimp, grouper, snapper, mahi-mahi, cobia, wahoo, and amberjack. Saltwater Restaurants is fully committed to bringing you the freshest from our backyard on the Gulf, to your dinner plate.

SEAFOODCOMMISSARY
Saltwater Restaurants

Saltwater Restaurants Inc. • Surf Hut • The Crab Trap • Rockin Tacos • Floyd's Shrimp House • Al's Beach Club Burger Bar • The Boathouse Landing • Nick's Boathouse

Miramar Beach • Destin • Okaloosa Island • Valparaiso • Downtown Pensacola • Perdido Key

IN THIS ISSUE

Carl Hiaasen
Climate Change Will Sink Parts of the Florida Keys. Period. 4
Tuesday with Mitch
Walid Is a Proud New American Citizen in a Divided Country 5
A Local's Perspective
By Charles Morgan III 6
Local Beat
Crab Island Vendors Speak Out, Commissioners Listen 7
Outdoors
The Beachcomber Fishing Report 8
Beach Warning Flags 8
Destin East Pass Tide & Sunset Chart 8
Food + Beverage
Jane Cooks for You: Start the New Year Light and Bright 9
April 2020: Wine, Charity and Fun in SoWal 10
Restaurant Guide 11
Happy Hours 14
Health + Fitness
It's New Year's…Show Some Resolve! 15
Community
Science Beyond the Classroom: The E.O. Wilson Biophilia Center 16
Battle of the Bands, High School Jazz Style 16
Alaqua Helps Bahamas Farm Rebound Post-Dorian 17
Events
Events Calendar 17
Pets
Pet of the Issue: Oliver 20
Adopt, Don't Shop! Nora 20
Faith 20
People
Something We Can Build On: A Chat with Steve Ingram 21
Places to Go
Antiques, Beach Science, Golf, Marine Parks, Museums, Music Stores, Parks & Public Beach Access, Thrift Stores 22
Cover Story
Looking Forward: The Big Events of 2020…So Far 23
Music
Life in Pink: Sinfonia's Annual Crescendo Fundraiser Set for Valentine's Weekend 24
Upcoming Music Releases 24
A Musical Alliance of Metallic Proportions 25
The Listening Room: Records, Podcasts and More 26
Podcast Roundup 26
Fun Facts About Southern Rock Legend Artimus Pyle 27
Live Music Calendar 27
The Records That Changed My Life: Gileah Taylor 28
#beachcomberdestin 31
Books
Seaside's Sundog Books: Still a Page Turner 32
Goodreads? More Like Greatreads… The 2019 Book of the Year Winners 32
Recommended Reading 33
Book Clubs 33
Amazon Charts 33
Upcoming Book Releases 33
Movies + TV
AARP's Movies for Grownups: This Year's Nominees 34
Upcoming DVD Releases 34
Local Film Screenings 34
Upcoming Theatrical Releases 34
Stage
Upcoming Stage Shows...and More 35
Art
Shelter House Fundraiser to Feature Mother-Daughter Artists 36
Art Classes & Workshops 36
Art Events 37
Art Galleries 37
Call to Artists 37
Answer This!
Finding Love in Paradise and 2020 Visions 38
Horrorscopes 39
Index to Beachcomber Advertisers 39

Beachcomber

PUBLISHER
The Beachcomber, Inc.

EDITOR
Christopher C. Manson
chris@beachcomberdestin.com

SENIOR WRITER
Bruce Collier

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Nikki Hedrick
Thomas J. Monigan
Jane Morgan
Marilu Morgan

ADVERTISING
Lori Grey
office@beachcomberdestin.com

DESIGN + WEBSITE
Tosha Manke

SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR
The Phantom

Beachcomber is published by
The Beachcomber Inc., 543 Harbor Blvd.
Suite 103, Destin, FL 32541.
Telephone 850-797-4010.

www.beachcomberdestin.com.

Beachcomber Magazine works diligently to make sure every issue is printed error-free, but no publication is perfect all the time. Unfortunately, we cannot assume any financial liability for any errors or omissions in content or advertising.

© 2020 The Beachcomber, Inc.

Okaloosa Arts Alliance

DESTIN HISTORY & FISHING MUSEUM

ON OUR COVER:

Happy New Year!

Wishing all of our readers a prosperous 2020...
www.BeachcomberDestin.com

Opening Remarks

My Fearless Predictions for 2020

At some point during the dawn of the Roaring Twenties, I will be awarded the key to the city by the mayor of Destin. Which I will promptly lose between the driver's seat and the center console in my car.

The first floating hotel will open on Crab Island on Memorial Day weekend. It will be wildly unsuccessful. Google "Sleepwalking Fail" come summertime.

Dozens more mattress stores, vape shops and Thai restaurants will open in Fort Walton Beach, bringing the total to I can't even count that high.

The crews working on Highway 98 in Destin will make considerable progress in 2020, bumping up the estimated completion date to Labor Day 2037.

Eddie Murphy and Adam Sandler will tie for Best Actor at the 2020 Academy Awards for *Dolemite Is My Name* and *Uncut Gems,* respectively. I can dream, can't I?

Popular words that will be introduced in the new year:

LIBFLAKE, less offensive than what's currently being used but will still have the same tear-stained effect on its intended audience…

SNOWBREAKERS, the folks who visit here during the Snowbird/Spring Break overlap and can't make up their minds which group to hang with—or avoid. Most Snowbreakers show up early at Publix and buy up not only all the fresh bread but the beer, too…

SPRINGBIRDS, because a fervent, hate-spewing segment of the population will insist that it's catchier than Snowbreakers. Lots of vile back and forth will happen on Facebook, and Mark Zuckerberg will be able to purchase a small country for himself.

Woman Yelling at Cat and running mate Smudge the Cat will win the Democratic presidential nomination by a landslide. The incumbent will demand proof of Smudge's humanness, and Twitter will break.

I will win the Powerball jackpot and promptly blow all the money hiring Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, Keith Richards and Mick Jagger to perform at my birthday party as the Rolling Beatles.

And once again, the Emerald Coast will skip winter.

Love,
Editor Manson

YOUR THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS

Great story about Harold, Charles Morgan ("In Memoriam: Harold Destin," Dec. 5, 2019-Jan. 1, 2020 *Beachcomber*). I sat with him at Muriel Destin's funeral and we reminisced about Hog's Breath Saloon and Harbor Docks. I was sad to see he passed away so quickly.

- Linda Quinlan via Facebook

Dinner Theater to *DIE* for!

ACT4MYSTERY

Enjoy a delicious meal during a night of Comedy, Mystery and MURDER! We *KILL* it at public, private, company parties and fundraising events. Contact us for details on shows, venues, prices and more!

www.act4mystery.com
(850) 862-2885

Climate Change Will Sink Parts of the Florida Keys. Period.

By Carl Hiaasen, Tribune Content Agency

A friend of mine owns a canal-front house on Cudjoe Key that got hammered by Hurricane Irma. It took a while—and more money than the insurance company gave him—but he finally put the place back together.

Then the big tides started coming, and they haven't stopped.

The ground floor of my friend's house now floods regularly. A few weeks ago, he brought in 80 tons of rock and dirt to buttress his land against the overflowing canal.

It's an expensive strategy that might or might not succeed, but people who love the Keys really love the Keys. They all know the water is coming; they just don't know how much, or how fast.

Last week the Southeast Florida Climate Leadership Summit was held in Key West. Scientists told local officials that the region's sea level is rising even more than first predicted, and that by the year 2060 it will be 17 to 31 inches higher than it is now.

"These numbers are all big enough that you can see that South Florida gets in big trouble quickly," said Harold Wanless, a University of Miami geology professor. "If you look out the window, like the areas in the Keys that are flooding for weeks on end, this not something that might happen, this is something that is already happening."

Wanless was a member of the conference's projections team, which used a moderate scientific model to update the forecast. Other models have a slower timeline; others have a faster timeline.

They all agree that the water is rising. The long-term impact will rattle the whole economy, not just the real estate and construction industries. Counties and municipalities—meaning taxpayers—will face enormous bills to raise roads, protect low-lying neighborhoods, and buy out vulnerable homeowners.

For instance, to elevate less than three miles of Old State Road 4A on Sugarloaf Key so it won't submerge during "king tides" could cost about $75 million if the job was completed before 2025, according to Monroe County officials.

If the project was delayed another 20 years, the cost would jump to $128 million.

Unfortunately, Monroe can't afford to spend $128 million lifting a short stretch of pavement upon which only a few dozen people live. In truth, the county would have trouble finding $128 million to elevate even a busy, heavily populated roadway.

(Last month it asked the state for $150 million to pay for sea level-related expenses and will be lucky to get it.)

Meanwhile, those in the Lower Keys who wonder how soggy their future might be need only look as far as Stillwright Point in Key Largo, at the other end of the island chain.

For more than three months, the 215-home community has been submerged in stinky, stagnant salt water that seeps in and out through the mangroves of Blackwater Sound.

The cause is the exceptionally strong king tides that have been occurring along the southern seaboard, and which some experts blame on a busy hurricane season. Flood conditions have been made worse and more lingering by the change in sea levels.

As a result, residents of Stillwater Point have been forced to adapt to life in standing water. Some wear rubber boots or travel by paddleboard, and use freshwater hoses to wash the salt off their belongings.

A couple of streets in the neighborhood have even posted no-wake signs—for the cars.

Unless you're Sponge Bob, a perpetually saturated habitat is not particularly desirable. However, only a fool would think of Stillwater Point as an anomaly instead of a premonition.

Gov. Ron DeSantis was supposed to speak at the Key West conference but canceled at the last minute. We totally understand—it's hard to plausibly present yourself as a climate-change policy leader at the same time you're campaigning for Donald Trump, a Floridian who still scoffs at the concept of climate change.

For a stand-in the governor sent his "chief resilience officer," an intrepid-sounding title that didn't exist in government a few years ago. Now it's a thing: Other conference attendees included the chief resilience officers of Miami, Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County.

But while resilience is a very commendable quality, it won't keep you dry when the sea water creeps in.

At this late stage in climate warming, it makes more sense for municipalities to be hiring chief riprap officers, who could start work by requisitioning 80 tons of rock and dirt for every beleaguered coastal-dweller in the state.

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for the Miami Herald. *Readers may write to him at* The Miami Herald, *3511 NW 91st Ave., Miami, FL 33172.*

© 2019, The Miami Herald. *Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.*

Building Affordable Custom Homes on the Emerald Coast

Florida Licensed Residential Builder & Real Estate Broker

SteveIngramhomes.com
Custom Homes Built on Your Lot
850.685.1546

House Plans • How We Do It • Great Pricing
Walton and Okaloosa Counties
Stephen Ingram Custom Building L.L.C.
Building Homes to Fit Most Any Budget

Walid Is a Proud New American Citizen in a Divided Country

By Mitch Albom, Tribune Content Agency

The morning after President Donald Trump was impeached, I got in a car to go to the airport. The driver was a man I have known for some time. His name is Walid. He is always upbeat when he greets me, in a navy sports coat, a tie and a vest, his brown eyes twinkling.

"Today is a big day for me," he declared, his accent thick from his earlier life in Lebanon.

"Why is that?" I asked.

"Today I go for interview to become an American citizen."

It took me by surprise. I knew Walid had been here for a while—since 2001—when he was offered a job with a human resources company in Dearborn. Back in Lebanon, Walid had run an HR department of more than 100 people, he says.

"But my family was here. And I had kids. I wanted to make a better life for them."

So he came to this country like so many of us did, like my grandparents did, like maybe your grandparents did, for the promise of an existence without war and random death like the one experienced as a youth in Beirut, when, he said, "We had to run to get bread and hope we did not get the bombs or the bullets."

I had assumed Walid was either a U.S. citizen already, or didn't need to be, given he had the proper visa and green card. But here he was, at age 65, excited about his test, excited about becoming, officially, an American.

On a day when the country could not have been more divided.

"I LOVE UNITED STATES FROM MY HEART"

They say if you look at the sun too long you'll go blind. Well, if you look at the top of the country too long, you lose the ability to see what's holding it up.

What's holding it up is people who still believe in basic American ideals, who tell basic American stories of determination and doggedness and hope for something better.

Walid Al Houssami is more like the average American than one would suspect. He built a decent life here in Michigan, purchased a house in Dearborn, had a car and kids in school.

And then, in 2007, during the economic recession, his company went out of business.

He lost his job.

He lost his house when the bank, he says, refused to refinance.

He had to scramble to find work.

So scramble he did. Walid had a bachelor's degree from the American University of Beirut, and decades of business experience, but he took jobs at gas stations, sometimes two or three at the same time, to make sure he fed his family.

"I don't care," he said. "I never was shamed. I would be shamed if I open my hand—if I say, 'Give me something' or I hold a sign 'give me money to eat'—then I will be shamed. I am never shamed to work."

During that time, when things were hardest for him, he followed the events in the Middle East. He saw the potential threats to America from Iraq and Afghanistan. One day, at age 53, he drove himself to a U.S. Army recruiter's office, he says, and told them he wanted to sign up.

"I told them I want to serve this country because I eat from this land. I drink from this land. I have to fight for this land. This is my country, too. If I am citizen or not, I'm living here. I love United States from my heart, you know?"

"What happened?" I asked.

"They refuse me for my age," he said. "But they say they were proud of me. One woman there, she give me a hug."

THE AMERICAN DREAM LIVES ON

In 2013, Walid began driving to make a living. He worked for Metro Cars. As time passed, his business instincts told him he could be more efficient—and earn more—if he had his own small company.

So he saved his money and purchased a black Chevy Suburban. He formed Weeda Cars, after his grandson's nickname.

And today, thanks to his industriousness, he has purchased another home. His kids are grown and doing well. He has four grandchildren whom he adores.

He is back on his feet.

And, at 65, walking toward citizenship. He said he wanted to do it now because he feels American, he wants to travel as an American, he wants to vote as an American.

I called him the next day to see how the test had gone.

"Excellent," Walid said. He passed the English language part; he passed all the background parts. When it came to civics portion, he had 10 chances to get six questions right. He didn't need them, he said. He got six of six.

"They ask about George Washington, about the 13 original states, about what states border Canada, about Ben Franklin, what he invent. I get the six right. After that they ask will I serve United States if needed, I say 'Of course.' They ask if I will take an oath, I say, 'Of course. I love the United States.'"

There was such pride in his voice. At the age when most of us retire, Walid was about to take a life leap.

You can stare at the sun, you can yell into the dark, and you can look to find American inspiration away from cable news cacophony. On one of the worst weeks in U.S. political history, there were still countless small examples of why this country is a beautiful place.

"They told me I will get a paper telling me when the ceremony is, and I can bring people to watch me get sworn in," Walid said, proudly.

I'd like to go to that. It beats staring at a TV full of screaming politicians. And, in truth, it's a lot more of what America is about.

© *2019 by the* Detroit Free Press. *Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.*

Beachcomber
If It's Happening on the Emerald Coast, It's in Here.
Is Your Business?

WHAT WE OFFER

18,000+ Online Subscribers
Facebook, Instagram, Twitter

2,500+ Newletter Subscribers
Our 2,500+ Newsletter subscribers receive bi-weekly newsletters. Deliver your message to our subscriber's inboxes.

120+ Local Distribution Sites
Conveniently located in 120+ local businesses, who distribute an average of 20,000 copies a month from Navarre to 30A.

To advertise or submit a listing,
go to BeachcomberDestin.com or
email: Office@BeachcomberDestin.com

Back in New York City

By Charles Morgan III

I spent a week in New York City earlier this month, waiting for my daughter to have a baby. Leah and Matt had a beautiful baby boy named Oliver. It was all perfect.

My role in the process was to offer emotional support, and for the most part stay out of the way. So I did what I do best which is a sort of structured manner of wandering around.

Both my daughters, Leah and Jane, have lived in New York for years. Sometimes they humor me by exploring the city, them leading the way and me lumbering behind.

You can wander all you want in that city and never get bored. What is most remarkable about New York and is the most impressive aspect of an amazing city is the nature of how in the world it seems to work.

The population is 8.6 million people and they comprise every ethnic and religious group known to man, and I'm sure some groups that are unknown. In my experience everyone seems to get along, or at least they're so busy they don't have time to cause trouble.

The city is our country's epicenter of the world of theater, art, music, literature, finance, food and more.

Every type of cuisine is offered in New York restaurants and grocery stores. There are restaurants that serve food from countries I've never even heard of. The availability of the food itself is remarkable. Hunts Point Market covers 60 acres and is the largest in the world. Meats, seafood, vegetables and fruit from around the world are sold 24 hours a day.

The infrastructure is aged, but everything seems to work. The traffic is primarily comprised of taxis and Uber type stuff. There are tremendously brave bicycle delivery guys. The subways are packed. Food deliveries to restaurants are made in the early morning. Pedestrians are everywhere.

Live from New York, it's Charles!!

You hear about crime in New York. I've never seen any, and I'm always looking. You can smell marijuana on almost every block, but I don't think that's even illegal. I wouldn't be surprised if more DUIs are issued in Okaloosa County than in all of New York City. People definitely drink there, but almost no one drives a car.

There are some homeless people and panhandlers, but I've seen more of that in college towns.

The people on the sidewalk might not be as outwardly friendly as people in the South, but it might be because they all seem really busy and in a hurry to get where they're going.

There are lots of differences between New York and Destin, where I've lived most of my life. But there are some similarities. On a per capita basis, I'm afraid New York has us beat.

You hear about crime in the big city. We've got crime, too. All kinds. Read the papers.

The infrastructure in New York is aging and crumbling. We've got problems with our infrastructure, too. We have worse traffic even though we're constantly reengineering our streets. How do you manage a sewer system for 8.6 million people? We can't seem to handle sewage for 13,000. I can't get a cell phone signal at my house.

They've got pedestrians and cyclists. You've got to be a lunatic to try either on our streets. Deaths per capita involving cyclists and walkers are ridiculously lower in New York.

They've got us beat on neighborhoods. We hardly have any true neighborhoods. There are about 100 in Manhattan alone.

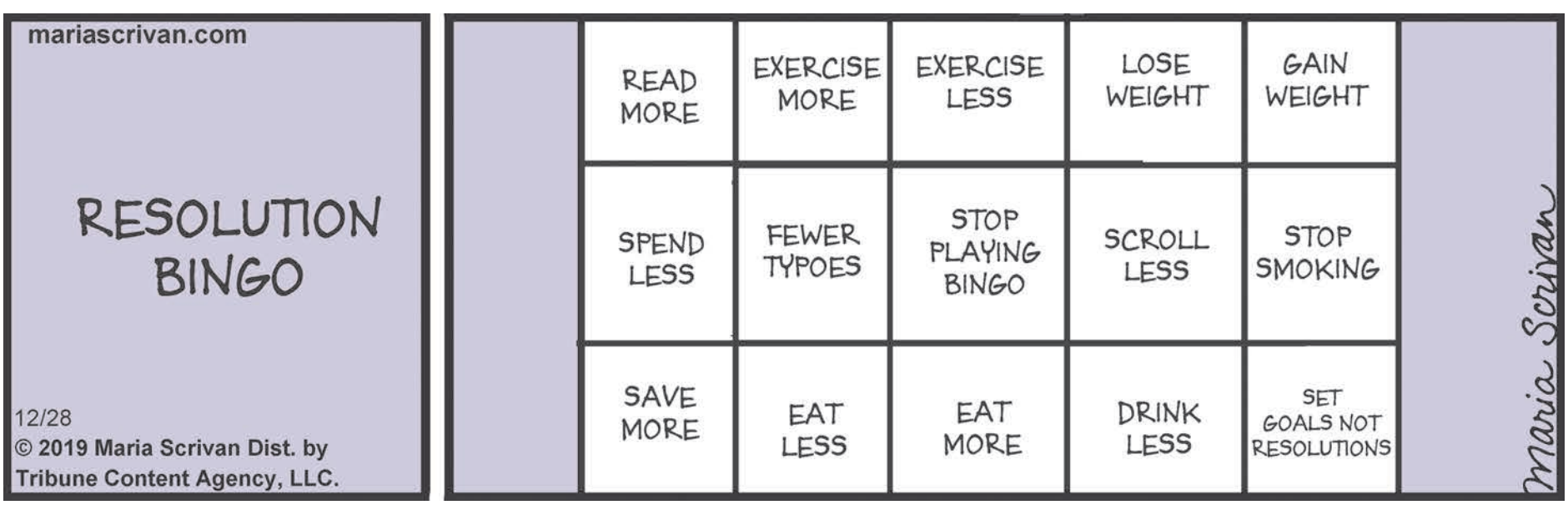
They crush us when it comes to percentage of the population that is obese. They're skinny up there. If you're heavyset, good luck getting a seat in a restaurant.

We've got them beat on jet skis, pontoon boats, and t-shirt shops.

But enough about comparisons.

The people in New York that I care most about live in Greenwich Village, across from Washington Square Park on a tree-lined street. They live in a second floor apartment that might be 700 square feet.

I went up there to welcome a grandson. Oliver weighed in at 9 pounds, 13 ounces. Matt and Leah and Oliver are all perfect. As far as I'm concerned, as special as New York is, on December 15th it became even more wonderful.



Crab Island Vendors Speak Out, Commissioners Listen

By Thomas J. Monigan

Just how many vendors will be allowed to operate at Crab Island next spring and summer has yet to be decided, and the process for selecting who stays and who goes has not been finalized either.

That's because Okaloosa County Commissioners "tabled" possible action on these issues until their meeting in March of next year. That happened at their most recent South District meeting in Shalimar, after a number of vendors spoke out passionately against a possible lottery system that would decide who would go and who would stay.

"We're going to try to fine tune it a little bit and make some compromises, and we'll have a better product," said Chairman **Kelly Windes.** "This is not a surprise. We knew it's a complicated issue, and we want to do it right."

For the record, last summer there were 26 permits issued from the Gulf Islands National Seashore. Twelve of those involved floating structures, which are regulated by Okaloosa County. Permit holders paid $1,000 a month for that privilege.

What was supposed to come up for a vote recently was the recommendation from the Floating Structures Committee to make the number of permits no more than 17 for the 2021 season. And the method of selection would be a lottery.

Longtime vendors came out in force at the recent commissioners meeting to oppose this "luck of the draw" proposal. It was their contention that they should be "grandfathered in," even though county attorney **Greg Stewart** said there were laws preventing this.

"That is a tricky component," Stewart summarized. "We don't have to pick winners and losers, and I can draft an ordinance that says that. I just want to make sure where we're at."

"I want these people to know they have a job from season to season," Commissioner **Carolyn Ketchel** said. She also stated: "I'm not for the lottery, I want you all to know this."

Heather Thomas also delivered some public comment. She and husband Chris own and operate Destin Vacation Boat Rentals, as well as Crab Island Company of Destin, which operates glass bottom boat excursions.

"I feel they were at least pretty open to what we had to say," Thomas said. "So I'm not really surprised, I'm relieved."

Chris Thomas added: "At least they're going to look at it in smaller increments, instead of just a blanket rule that would affect businesses that weren't intended to be affected."

Madison Sullivan has spent nine years working at Crab Island for her father Jimmy "The Ice Cream Man" Perkins. Her public comment was slightly emotional.

"Crab Island basically raised me," said Sullivan, who started out there at age 13. "The commissioners were much more understanding than I think anybody anticipated. I feel like they heard us, and hopefully the policies that come back in March will reflect that."

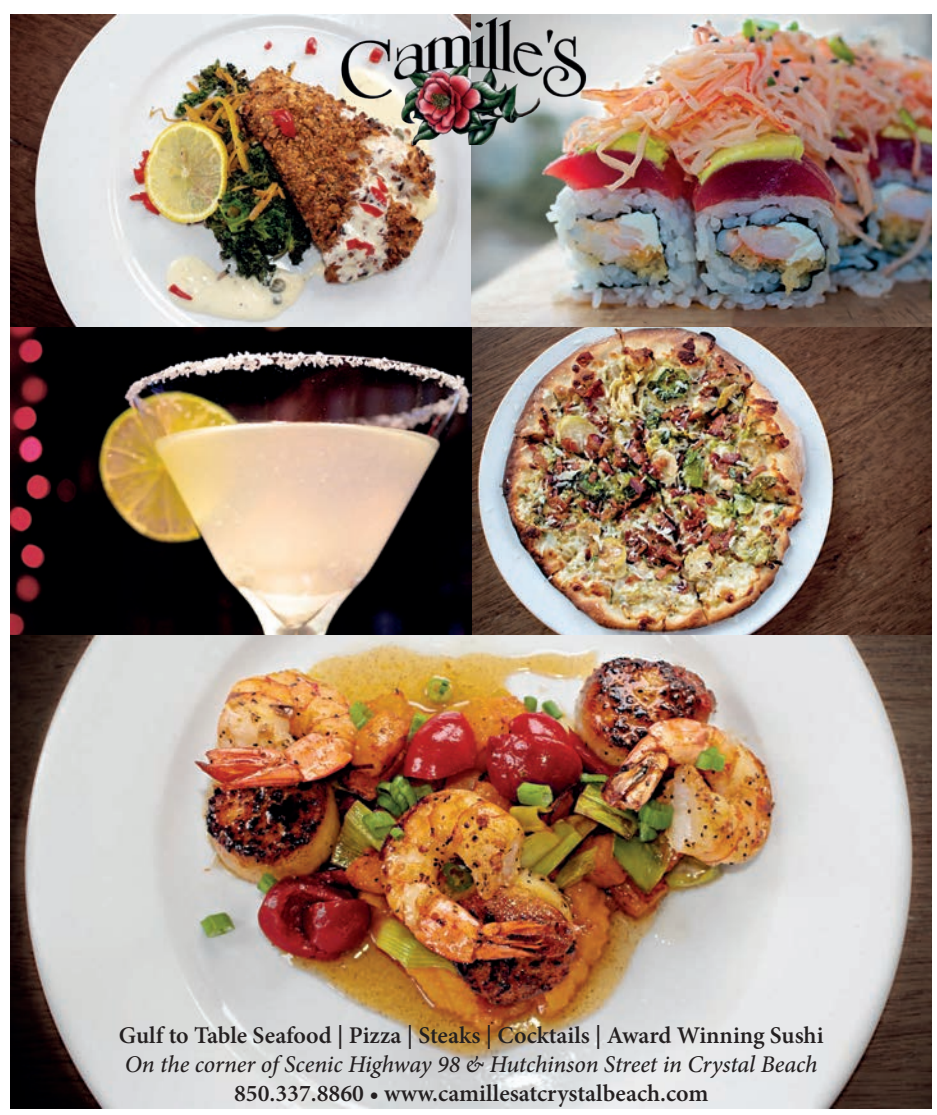
Karen Perkins, Sullivan's mother, said, "Well, I'm not for the lottery, of course, because there are 26 permits issued and to try to whittle that down to 15 is going to be, in my opinion, impossible. If they decide to send that out to the public for a lottery, the chances are nil and zero that I'm going to be able to continue."

Sean Blaise of Cruisin Tikis said he was pleased with the commission's action. His business has operated at Crab Island since 2018.

"It's a start," Blaise said. "Hopefully, they'll come back with an additional amendment that's less sweeping then what was proposed today."

One change for next season that has already been approved and is not affected by the recent tabling: All floating structures within the county's jurisdiction will not be able to stay at Crab Island overnight. From sunset until sunrise, they will have to be parked at a public or private marina or dock with the property owner's permission.

Thomas J. Monigan's career as a reporter and editor has seen him work at newspapers in New Jersey, New York City, Georgia, northern California and North Carolina. He has written newspaper and magazine stories that have taken him from Pensacola to Panama City, as well as coastal Alabama.



The Beachcomber Fishing Report

BAY FISHING

December bay fishing can be fun as long as you're patient. Target deeper water docks and deeper pockets of the bay—that's where you'll find the trout and redfish. The bridges are also a good place to target redfish and sheephead this time of the year.

Live bait is always best in my opinion—however, to find the fish use soft plastics to search them out.

GULF FISHING

Bottom fishing is our go-to this time of the year—targeting grouper, mingo and mangrove snapper. Always fish areas of rocky bottom, reefs or wrecks. This time of the year, there are several species that are closed so always refer to the FWC for what species to target.

Still have been some good catches of flounder—just make sure you have live bull minnows. They seem to work well for other species as well.

PIER/SURF FISHING

Winter bonitas off the end of the piers on those cold north wind mornings. Look for redfish, pompano, whiting and flounder this time of the year. This pattern should stay consistent until the spring.

In the surf, look for whiting and a possible pompano or redfish. Keep those live sand fleas, fresh shrimp and fish bites ready to go.

Remember get out there and enjoy our Gulf Coast!

DESTIN EAST PASS TIDE & SUNSET CHART

JAN 02	Sunrise 6:43am	Sunset 4:57pm	Moon 36%	TIDES: Low 10:29pm, High 7:28pm
JAN 03	Sunrise 6:43am	Sunset 4:58pm	Moon 46%	TIDES: Low 9:29am, High 6:26pm
JAN 04	Sunrise 6:43am	Sunset 4:59pm	Moon 55%	TIDES: Low 5:23am, High 6:08pm
JAN 05	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 4:59pm	Moon 64%	TIDES: Low 4:29am, High 6:16pm
JAN 06	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:00pm	Moon 73%	TIDES: Low 4:51am, High 6:41pm
JAN 07	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:01pm	Moon 82%	TIDES: Low 5:31am, High 7:19pm
JAN 08	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:02pm	Moon 89%	TIDES: Low 6:21am, High 8:05pm
JAN 09	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:02pm	Moon 95%	TIDES: Low 7:16am, High 8:55pm
JAN 10	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:03pm	Moon 98%	TIDES: Low 8:10am, High 9:46pm
JAN 11	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:04pm	Moon 99%	TIDES: Low 9:01am, High 10:36pm
JAN 12	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:05pm	Moon 98%	TIDES: Low 9:46am, High 11:24pm
JAN 13	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:06pm	Moon 94%	TIDES: Low 10:23am
JAN 14	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:07pm	Moon 88%	TIDES: High 12:12am, Low 10:49am
JAN 15	Sunrise 6:44am	Sunset 5:07pm	Moon 79%	TIDES: High 1:00am, Low 10:57pm
JAN 16	Sunrise 6:43am	Sunset 5:08pm	Moon 69%	TIDES: High 1:55am/5:49pm, Low 10:28am
JAN 17	Sunrise 6:43am	Sunset 5:09pm	Moon 58%	TIDES: Low 1:12am/8:15am, High 4:26am/5:01pm
JAN 18	Sunrise 6:43am	Sunset 5:10pm	Moon 47%	TIDES: Low 2:54am, High 5:08pm
JAN 19	Sunrise 6:43am	Sunset 5:11pm	Moon 36%	TIDES: Low 3:51am, High 5:40pm
JAN 20	Sunrise 6:42am	Sunset 5:12pm	Moon 26%	TIDES: Low 4:48am, High 6:26pm
JAN 21	Sunrise 6:42am	Sunset 5:13pm	Moon 17%	TIDES: Low 5:44am, High 7:18pm
JAN 22	Sunrise 6:42am	Sunset 5:13pm	Moon 10%	TIDES: Low 6:41am, High 8:13pm
JAN 23	Sunrise 6:41am	Sunset 5:14pm	Moon 4%	TIDES: Low 7:33am, High 9:04pm
JAN 24	Sunrise 6:41am	Sunset 5:15pm	Moon 1%	TIDES: Low 8:18am, High 9:49pm
JAN 25	Sunrise 6:41am	Sunset 5:16pm	Moon 0%	TIDES: Low 8:52am, High 10:27pm
JAN 26	Sunrise 6:40am	Sunset 5:17pm	Moon 0%	TIDES: Low 9:15am, High 10:59pm
JAN 27	Sunrise 6:40am	Sunset 5:18pm	Moon 3%	TIDES: Low 9:27am, High 11:26pm
JAN 28	Sunrise 6:39am	Sunset 5:19pm	Moon 7%	TIDES: Low 9:28am, High 11:48pm
JAN 29	Sunrise 6:39am	Sunset 5:20pm	Moon 13%	TIDES: Low 9:16am
JAN 30	Sunrise 6:38am	Sunset 5:20pm	Moon 20%	TIDES: High 12:02am/4:49pm, Low 8:46am
JAN 31	Sunrise 6:38am	Sunset 5:21pm	Moon 28%	TIDES: Low 7:42am, High 4:08pm
FEB 01	Sunrise 6:37am	Sunset 5:22pm	Moon 37%	TIDES: Low 3:10am, High 4:07pm
FEB 02	Sunrise 6:36am	Sunset 5:23pm	Moon 47%	TIDES: Low 2:54am, High 4:28pm
FEB 03	Sunrise 6:36am	Sunset 5:24pm	Moon 56%	TIDES: Low 3:35am, High 5:08pm
FEB 04	Sunrise 6:35am	Sunset 5:25pm	Moon 66%	TIDES: Low 4:26am, High 6:01pm
FEB 05	Sunrise 6:35am	Sunset 5:26pm	Moon 75%	TIDES: Low 5:22am, High 7:00pm

Start the New Year Light and Bright

By Jane Morgan

Happy new year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday full of quality time with people you love and delicious, comforting food. This month, I'm cooking things that are light and bright, and maybe you find yourself craving those flavors this time of year, too.

These two recipes are here to help you kickstart a new year of cooking simple, nourishing meals for yourself. They're easy to adapt to your preferences, and make for excellent meal prep options if bringing your lunch or cooking more at home is on your list of resolutions. I hope you enjoy them!

HERBY GRAIN SALAD WITH A HONEY LEMON APPLE CIDER VINEGAR DRESSING

This is my favorite salad. It's light and fresh, packed with veggies, really easy to adapt with any ingredients you love or have on hand, and never leaves me feeling hungry. It's also a great meal prep option if you're looking for a healthy lunch that will last through the week. If you want to make it with a little more protein, some lemony grilled chicken or a soft boiled egg would be perfect.

Ingredients for the salad:

1 cup dried pearled farro (quinoa, wheatberries, couscous, wild rice, etc. also work here)
1 cup coarsely chopped herbs (my favorite mix is dill, mint and parsley)
2 cups mixed greens and vegetables, such as arugula, shredded carrots, sliced Persian cucumbers, and halved cherry tomatoes (other fun additions are carrot tops, roasted squash, apples, sautéed kale, and thinly sliced fennel)
1/4 of a red onion, thinly sliced
Zest of 1 lemon
Salt and pepper to taste

Ingredients for the dressing:

1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
1 tablespoon honey
Juice of the zested lemon
Cracked black pepper to taste

Preparation:

1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Rinse your farro through a sieve, then add it to the boiling water, and cook to your preferred texture. This usually takes around 20-25 minutes for me, but taste it as you go! When your farro is done, drain it and add it to a large mixing bowl.
2. While your farro is cooking, do all your prep work. Toss your thinly sliced red onion with the vinegar of your choice in a small bowl and let sit until you're finished with the rest of your prep. Thinly slice the rest of your veggies, peel your carrots with a Y peeler into beautiful ribbons, cut off the carrot tops and wash them well and add them right in with everything else, halve your cherry or sungold tomatoes, wash your greens, rinse and chop your herbs, slice your cucumbers, clean out your fridge and add anything else that sounds good. If you want a protein, chicken would be great here, or you could add a good cheese like feta, grilled halloumi, or shaved parm.
3. Whisk the olive oil, apple cider vinegar, lemon, and honey together until it emulsifies, then add cracked black pepper and adjust to taste. Set aside.
4. When your farro is done cooking, toss it in a big bowl with your vegetables and herbs, add your lemon zest and pickled red onion, season with salt and pepper, then add your dressing if you're serving immediately or keep it on the side if you're making lunches for the week and add it as you go along. Enjoy!

TURMERIC ROASTED VEGETABLES

My favorite way to use up vegetables and turn them into something I actually know I'll eat before they wither away in the back of the fridge is by roasting a big batch at the beginning of the week. Roasted veggies hold up very well and are great to have on hand because you can add them to just about anything. I love using them to add some density to a salad, serve alongside crispy chicken thighs, or liven up a simple quinoa bowl. I like using turmeric because it has the perfect amount of bite and kick to cut through the veggies, it's a great anti-inflammatory, and it's the easiest way to add a different flavor profile to your meal.

Ingredients:

5-6 cups chopped veggies, such as broccoli and cauliflower florets, baby potatoes, carrots, halved Brussels sprouts, shallots, or anything else you like
2 cloves of garlic
3 tbs extra virgin olive oil
2 tsp ground turmeric
Salt and pepper to taste
Red pepper flakes (optional)
Lime (optional)

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
2. Prep your veggies! Cut cauliflower and broccoli into florets, halve baby potatoes and Brussels sprouts, cut carrots into 1/2 inch coins, slice the shallot into 1/2 inch rings, and chop the garlic.
3. In a large bowl, toss the veggies, garlic, turmeric, and olive oil together. I recommend using a spatula or wooden spoon because turmeric will stain your hands! Spread out the veggies in a single layer on a baking sheet. Season with salt and pepper to taste and top with red pepper flakes, if using.
4. Roast your veggies, stirring halfway through, until tender, about 20 minutes.
5. Check and adjust seasoning. Top with a squeeze of lime juice, and enjoy!

Jane Morgan is a personal chef, caterer, recipe developer and writer from Destin currently living in Brooklyn. You can see more of her recipes on Instagram **@janecooksforyou.** *And sign up for her newsletter at* **janedeanmorgan.com/newsletter.**

April 2020: Wine, Charity and Fun in SoWal

Tickets are on sale now for ***South Walton Beaches Wine and Food Festival,*** happening **April 23-26, 2020,** in Grand Boulevard at Sandestin. With more than 600 quality wines to taste over four days, this annual award-winning charity event delivers a wine experience unparalleled among Northwest Florida wine festivals.

In addition to the vast selection of wines from around the world, the festival is known for hosting nationally and internationally well-known wine celebrities, and 2020 is no exception. Alessia Antinori of Marchesi Antinori, the most famously iconic winemaking family in history, will pour her family's highly prized Italian wines which will be paired with an exclusive menu of authentic Italian dishes in Culinary Village.

"The 2020 festival is all about the experience. By bringing in Alessia Antinori, whose wine company has been making wine for over 630 years, it will be like bringing Italy to South Walton," says **Chan Cox,** festival founder. "You can't go anywhere in the world and get this experience and proximity to wine royalty. Additionally, wineries of Jackson Family Wines will present wines from around the world, making this an experience you can't find anywhere else."

Jackson Family Wine World will be featured at the festival, presenting in-depth tasting seminars. Expect to taste their Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah and Viognier from California and "big reds" including Cabernet Sauvignon, French Bordeaux, Italian Super Tuscan, Australian Shiraz and more.

Nosh Pavilions are located throughout the festival as are Spirits Row offerings. Ongoing live entertainment rounds out the Grand Tasting offerings.

The festival kicks off Thursday at 5 PM with Winemakers & Shakers, held at Wine World in Destin. The VIP Wine Tasting now takes place Friday from 4 to 6 PM, followed by the Friday Craft Beer & Spirits Jam from 6 to 9 PM. The Grand Tastings are Saturday and Sunday, 1-4 PM.

The VIP Tasting can only be attended by purchasing the VIP Wine Festival 3-Day Package that includes most festival events as well.

Tickets can be purchased at **www.SoWalWine.com.**

The South Walton Beaches Wine and Food Festival is truly a celebration of wine, food and music that everyone can feel good about. This event is a major fundraiser for the Destin Charity Wine Auction Foundation, with proceeds benefiting more than a dozen children's charities in Northwest Florida.

- Stacey Brady

Restaurant Guide

If your favorite restaurant isn't listed here, let us know by dropping an email to us at **chris@beachcomberdestin.com!**

AMERICAN

AL'S BEACH CLUB & BURGER BAR Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-226-4100. **ALSBEACHCLUB.COM**

BUD & ALLEY'S WATERFRONT RESTAURANT A pioneer of the fish- and farm-to-table movement, with an award-winning menu featuring Gulf Coast classics paired with Southern-style cuisine. The daily Sunset Celebration ritual on the Rooftop Deck overlooking the Gulf has been a tradition for more than 30 years. Open daily for breakfast (8-11 AM), lunch (11 AM-2:30 PM) and dinner (from 5 PM). Hours may vary. 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-5900. **BudAndAlleys.com.**

CAFÉ THIRTY-A Cafe Thirty-A has been here a while. Finding out why can be a delicious experience. A nightly-changing menu offers steaks, chicken, pork, lamb, and local seafood elegantly prepared with imaginative sauces and sides, courteously served in a beautiful beach-house atmosphere. Lobster bisque, stone crab claws, seasonal fish and shellfish, and wood oven-baked pizzas. Full bar. $8-36. 3899 E. Scenic Highway 30-A, Seagrove Beach, 850-231-2166.

THE FRANK & BEEF CONNECTION is the only exclusive Vienna Beef vendor on the Emerald Coast serving authentic Chicago style hotdogs, Polish and Italian beefs. All ingredients (except onions, tomatoes and potatoes) are shipped from the Vienna Beef Company in Chicago. Open Monday through Saturday, 11 AM-7 PM. Located at 1006 Beal Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, 850-543-6785 or 850-240-4417. Follow us on Facebook!

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE From a volcano flowing with Margaritas to suspended airplanes, Margaritaville is more than a restaurant; it's a state of mind. Open daily, 11 AM-10 PM Five O'Clock Somewhere celebration Mon.-Thu., 4-7 PM 76 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-7700. **www.margaritavilledestin.com.**

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S DESTIN is located next to the Mid Bay Bridge and Legendary Marine on the Choctawhatchee Bay in beautiful Destin, Florida. A little off the beaten path, but we like a little more room to breathe. Specializing in the BEST Burgers in Paradise, Southern Favorites and Lucy's own GUMBO LOVE! Family friendly! Come by boat, anchor and wade in or call for our boat shuttle. Open daily at 11 AM. Live music nightly. Separate allergy menu. Beach for the kids to play, Fountain of Youth, LuLu's Gift Shop. 850-710-LULU (5858). **www.lulubuffett.com/destin.**

RESTAURANT PARADIS Nestled in the beautiful coastal town of Rosemary Beach, you'll find this hidden gem that loyal customers like to call home. Evoking a warm neighborhood feel, the dining area features an understated wine country elegance. Open for dinner beginning at 5 PM, Paradis is committed to serving fresh seasonal ingredients, which celebrate local produce and an abundance of fresh Gulf seafood, along with prime steaks and fine wines. Paradis welcomes wedding receptions, rehearsal dinners, and all celebrations, both intimate and large. Come join us! Located at 82 S Barrett Square, Rosemary Beach. Call 850-534-0400 or visit **www.restaurantparadis.com**.

SLICK MICK'S is a family-friendly sports bar and a locals' favorite. Home of the Slick Mick's Philly Cheesesteak, award-winning pizza and much more. Live music every Friday and Saturday, and a Sunday brunch that will knock your church socks off! Full football coverage—catch SEC, BIG 10 and NFL games, plus UFC fight nights. Kids eat FREE every Tuesday. Full bar with a variety of beers on tap. Daily happy hour, 3-7 PM. Can't make it in? That's okay, we have delivery. Veteran owned and operated, we are proud to serve our community and offer military discounts. 19 Eglin Parkway NE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-864-5577.

VUE ON 30A showcases one of the best views for dining in all of South Walton. Open to the public and serving lunch, dinner, happy hour and Sunday brunch. Named "Best Restaurant of 2014" by Beachcomber, Vue on 30a offers the ultimate dining experience. Open for Sunday brunch, 10 AM-2 PM; Tue.-Thu.—lounge 3-9 PM, dinner 5-9 PM; Fri.-Sat.—lounge 3-10 PM, dinner 5-10 PM; closed Mondays. Happy hour in the lounge only 3-6 PM. Two for one entrée specials Wed.-Sat., 5-6 PM. 4801 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2305. **www.Vueon30a.com.**

ASIAN

LIN'S ASIAN CUISINE Enjoy carefully prepared and artfully served Chinese and Southeast Asian dishes in a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere. Chicken, beef, pork, duck, fish and shellfish are cooked to suit most tastes, and Lin's offers your favorites—General Tso's chicken, Mongolian beef, pad thai, lo mein and kung pao, AMong many others. Beer and wine. $2-15. 130 Scenic Gulf Dr. #5B, Miramar Beach, 850-424-5888.

BAKERIES

CAKEMASTER'S BAKERY II Quality baked goods since 1971, made from scratch on the premises by a fourth generation baker. Decorated cakes for all occasions. New Sweet Expressions cake collection. Breakfast pastries—Danish (cheese, pecan, fruit), assorted coffee cakes, cinnamon rolls, crumb cake, strudel, bienstich, pecan crispies. Delicious delights—brownies, ragulah, cream fingers, biscotti, cookies (wedding, sugar, chocolate chip, raisin, fruit bars, holiday) and more. Refrigerated desserts—éclairs, Boston cream pie, cheesecake, black forest cake, Italian rum cake, Napoleons, French creampuffs and more. Come on by and see us. 105 Beach Drive Suite A-3, Fort Walton Beach (behind Pizza Hut on Racetrack Road), 850-862-4911. Closed Mondays.

BARBEQUE

BACK BEACH BARBECUE offers a delicious yet refined menu highlighted by 12-hour slow cooked meats, simple homemade sides, gluten-free options and four sauces made special in house. At the center of attention are the restaurant's two wood fired pits, "Smokey" and "The Bandit," easily viewed and smelled from the covered patio, outdoor patio or via two garage doors which give the restaurant a true open-air feel. Back Beach Barbecue also offers catering for private and corporate events, delivery and a mobile food truck. The restaurant is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, beginning at 6:30 AM. Located at 19714 Panama City Beach Parkway, Panama City Beach. Call 850-249-0822 or visit **www.backbeachbarbecue.com**.

LILLIE'S Q Award-winning on the national level barbecue restaurant located at 9848 Hwy. 98 W., Miramar Beach, approximately seven miles east of the Mid Bay Bridge. We offer barbecue that represents all areas of the U.S., such as pulled pork, baby back ribs, smoked chicken breast and beef tri-tip (sliced sirloin). All meat products are slow smoked using natural wood and lump charcoal. Seven sauce choices with delicious side orders and the best banana pudding in the Panhandle. We offer a wrap around porch. No inside seating. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11 AM-6 PM Call ahead orders welcomed! 850-654-3911. **www.restaurantji.com/fl/miramar-beach/lillies-q-**.

BREAKFAST

CAMILLE'S CAFE Start your day with coffee and breakfast. We feature fluffy eggs, cinnamon rolls, apple pie muffins, fresh juice and smoothies. For lunch, enjoy our fresh caught tuna salad on an Asiago cheese bagel, Sriracha turkey sandwich or Mediterranean chicken salad sandwich. Plus all day Bloody Marys, mimosas, beer, and daiquiris made with fresh-squeezed juice. Join our party! 2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin, 850-337-8860.

GRITS AND GRIND In 2011, a love affair between Memphis and the NBA Grizzlies began. With a Grit and Grind style of basketball, this southern team exemplifies hard work. Our owners bring the same commitment to hard work and fresh food at Grits & Grind, a breakfast establishment located in Seacrest Beach. We serve up a great southern breakfast and more, with friendly service in a fun atmosphere. Open daily, 7-11 AM. 10343 E Co. Hwy. 30A, Seacrest Beach, 850-231-4021. **gritsandgrind-breakfast.com**.

THE LOCAL MARKET Open 7 AM-3 PM daily. Fresh pressed juices, coffee, breakfast, gourmet sandwiches, homemade ice cream and more. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-460-8979.

THE PANCAKERY Serving breakfast and lunch daily from 7 AM - 2 PM Featuring build your own pancakes and omelettes! Waffles, French Toast, crepes, benedicts, bananas foster and all traditional breakfast items. Also, lunch menu includes sandwiches, burgers, salads, wraps, and loaded potatoes. Now serving bloody marys, mimosas and cold beer. 960 Hwy 98 East, Suite 104, Destin. 850-269-0791.

DINNER & A SHOW

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK If you're looking for something different in town for the whole family, come enjoy Graffiti & The Funky Blues Shack. We've been around for 20-plus years doing what we do best – FOOD + MUSIC! Our dishes are tried and true and are sure to satisfy everyone in your group. Our menu showcases a little bit of everything. We offer some of the best gourmet pizzas and pastas in town. We also prepare fresh caught Gulf seafood and perfectly grilled filets. Vegetarian? No worries, we've got you covered, too. While enjoying your delectable meal, you will also experience listening or boogieing to some of the best local and out-of-town talent. We have Jazz Jams, Blues Jams, and everything in between. We weren't voted Best Live Music Venue three years in a row for nothing! Summer music schedule is

FRESH SEAFOOD FROM OUR FAMILY, TO YOURS

DEWEY DESTIN'S HARBORSIDE RESTAURANT
202 Harbor Blvd,
Destin, FL
850.837.7525

DEWEY DESTIN'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT
9 Calhoun Ave.
Destin, FL
850.837.7575

DEWEY DESTIN'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT
8673 Navarre Pkwy.
Navarre, FL
850.710.7070

BEST IN DESTIN
WWW.DESTINSEAFOOD.COM
2018 BEST of the Emerald Coast

THE LOCAL MARKET

IN-HOUSE BRINED DELI MEATS
BREAKFAST ALL DAY • SMOOTHIES
FRESH PRESSED JUICES • BEER • WINE
BLUE PLATE SPECIALS • CATERING

950 GULF SHORE DRIVE • 850-460-8979
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM @LOCALMARKETDESTIN
WWW.LOCALMARKETDESTIN.COM

Restaurant Guide

seven days a week—Sun.-Thu., 7-10 PM and Fri. and Sat., 8 PM until… We have a full bar and offer an early Happy Hour from 4 to 7 PM, as well as a late night Happy Hour Friday and Saturday (check website for time). Located at 34902 Emerald Coast Parkway in Destin. For reservations, call 850-424-6650. Full menu and music schedule at **GraffitiFBS.com.**

REDD'S FUELING STATION a/k/a Redd's Pub N Song, specializes in great food and music. The menu is simple but delicious, including slow cooked beef brisket, sweet and spicy babybacks and fried green tomato BLTs. **Redd the Singing Bartender** sings as she bartends, hosts and serves on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays—customers can participate by requesting songs for tips. Redd offers over 350 songs to choose from. Wednesday is Open Mic Night, the longest running open mic on 30A with musicians of all levels and ages welcome. We have the sound system, you bring your instrument and your talent. Friday nights are live music. Redd likes to promote local musicians and several popular local bands had their first gigs here, including the Luke Langford Band and Mose Wilson and the Delta Twang. Dinner reservations for four or more are highly recommended. Located at 2320 West County Highway 30A in Blue Mountain Beach. Call 850-325-0252 for information and reservations. Visit **www.reddsfuel.com** and find **Redd's Pub N Song** on Facebook.

FINE DINING

EDWARD'S FINE FOOD AND WINE Relax, you're at Edward's. Open everyday from 5 PM until everyone is full. Courtyard and indoor seating available. Join us at the chef's counter, and watch as the team prepares gourmet dishes to order. We love children, so for safety and as a courtesy to others, children must remain seated with their parents. We operate on a first come first serve and do not take reservations. We look forward to serving you. 66 Main Street, Rosemary Beach, 850-231-0550. **Edwards30a.com**.

GERMAN

FOKKERS PUB German sausages and homemade schnitzels go great with German beer! Brick oven pizza, grilled or fried wings, burgers, sandwiches and salad bar – there's something for everyone! Live music Wednesdays and Fridays. Located at 215 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE Unit #1 in Downtown Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-6666.

HEALTHY DINING

GEORGE'S AT ALYS BEACH Established in 2008, George's has offered regional coastal fare infused with global flavors to the quaint town of Alys Beach. We craft all of our dishes using locally sourced organic produce and the freshest seafood available, and present each with a generous helping of love. Our dishes fall into two categories—Behave and Misbehave. The Behave section features organic, spa-inspired dishes, while the Misbehave side touts traditional beach fare like fried seafood baskets and po-boys. The menu is rounded out with a thoughtfully curated wine list and a selection of decadent desserts. Our charming beach cottage provides the perfect backdrop for a casual dinner with friends and family. Dine indoors in our airy yet cozy dining room, or soak in the beautiful Florida sunshine on our front deck or screened porches. Open 11 AM-3 PM and 5-9 PM 30 Castle Harbour Dr., Panama City Beach, 850-641-0017, **georgesatalysbeach.net.**

ITALIAN

BUD & ALLEY'S PIZZA BAR + TRATTORIA Savor artisan cheese, fresh salad, antipasto dishes, homemade soups, seasonal vegetables, hearty pastas and wood-fired pizza. Experience these authentic flavors in the courtyard, fireside at the bar, or on the veranda overlooking the Gulf. Open daily for lunch and dinner, 11 AM-9 PM 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-3113. **BudAndAlleysPizzaBar.com.**

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK Destin, 850-424-6650. **GraffitiFBS.com**

MELLOW MUSHROOM PIZZA BAKERY Widely, wildly assorted menu of stone baked pizzas, hoagies, calzones, salads, and specialty items. Pizzas traditional and exotic include pesto, jerk chicken, gourmet white, and Magical Mystery Tour. Colorful psychedelic décor and friendly service. $4-25. 960 Hwy 98E, Sunsations Plaza, Destin, 650-6420.

TUSCANY ITALIAN BISTRO Authentic Italian cuisine includes pasta, freshest seafood, tender veal and more. A true taste of Italy--beautiful Italian decor with handpainted murals. Live Entertainment by Eclipse (Don and AManda), Special Happy Hour from 5 to 8 PM 36178 Emerald Coast Pkwy. Next to City Market in Destin. 850-650-2451.

LATIN / MEXICAN

BUD & ALLEY'S TACO BAR Shake the sand off your feet, choose a colorful table, and get ready to experience South of the Border favorites, Florida-style. Baja fish tacos, homemade guacamole, burritos, top shelf margaritas, and ice cold cerveza hit the spot for lunch or dinner. Open daily, 11 AM-9 PM 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-4781. **BudAndAlleys.com.**

LA COCINA is a Latin-inspired restaurant featuring both specialty dishes with a Latin flair as well as classic Tex-Mex cuisine. Nestled between Rosemary Beach and Alys Beach (in Seacrest Beach), the friendly staff offers some of the best drinks along 30A, including house-made mojitos, sangria, and a selection of fresh-squeezed lime margaritas. La Cocina is always voted as one of South Walton's hot spots for Mexican cuisine. All dishes are prepared from scratch using the freshest ingredients available. Open daily for lunch, 11:30 AM-3 PM, dinner from 5 to 9 PM. Seacrest Beach, 850-231-4021.

LA PAZ offers just about anything you'd want from a Mexican-Southwestern kitchen, including tamales, tacos, fajitas, burritos, enchiladas and quesadillas, plus a thoughtfully prepared list of grilled local fish and shellfish and imaginative spins on classics. Daily dinner specials, full bar. $15-25. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-837-2247. **www.lapazdestin.com.**

PEPITO'S MEXICAN GRILL An enormous menu, plenty of room, and a friendly staff make Pepito's a good bet for a Mexican snack or feast. Traditional and unusual fare includes carnitas, enchiladas, fajitas, vegetarian dishes, steaks and seafood specialties. $4-19. 757 Harbor Blvd, Destin, 650-7734. Additional locations in Bluewater Bay and Fort Walton Beach. **www.mypepitos.com**.

ROCKIN TACOS GRILL & TEQUILA BAR Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-226-8226. **ROCKINTACOS.COM**

FRESH SEAFOOD?

One of the first questions people ask when they visit our area is

"How can we be sure we're getting fresh seafood?"

That's an excellent question. In the state of Florida, even though it is surrounded by water, more than 90% of the seafood sold this year will be imported from other countries.

Throughout the United States, the huge majority of seafood is imported. Most of it is mislabeled. Frozen seafood is sold as "fresh" and imported seafood is sold as "local". According to Oceana, 93% of fish sold as red snapper is actually some other species. 57% of tuna sold at sushi bars throughout the country is not tuna. Most of the tilapia served in this country comes from Viet Nam and Thailand and much of it is farmed in waters with sewage run-off and the source of feed is pig feces.

Harbor Docks has been selling fish through its wholesale market since 1981. We sell to markets across the United States and Canada. We also sell to select restaurants along the Gulf Coast. Harbor Docks contracts with over 100 commercial boats to ensure that we have an adequate supply of fresh fish.

GULF TO TABLE

HARBOR DOCKS
SEAFOOD & COCKTAILS

DESTIN, FL | 850.837.2506 | HARBORDOCKS.COM

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE.

Snapper and Tuna stats: http://oceana.org/en/news-media/publications/reports/oceana-study-reveals-seafood-fraud-nationwide
Imported seafood stat: http://www.fishwatch.gov/farmed_seafood/outside_the_us.htm
Tilapia/pig feces: http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-10-11/asian-seafood-raised-on-pig-feces-approved-for-u-s-consumers.html

Restaurant Guide

SEAFOOD

CAMILLE'S AT CRYSTAL BEACH Gulf to Table seafood, pizza, steaks, cocktails, and award-winning sushi. Located on the corner of Scenic Highway 98 and Hutchinson Street in Crystal Beach. 850-337-8860. **www.camillesatcrystalbeach.com**

THE CRAB TRAP SEAFOOD AND OYSTER BAR Scenic Highway 98 in Destin, 850-664-2722; Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-301-0959. **CRABTRAPFLORIDA.COM**

DEWEY DESTIN'S HARBORSIDE RESTAURANT The classics, done right. Shrimp, crab, tuna, grouper, scallops, oysters and some land-based items, served fried, grilled, or steamed in most conceivable combinations. Family-friendly, accommodating staff. Nightly specials, full bar. Open daily at 11 AM 202 Harbor Boulevard, Destin, 850-837-7525.

DEWEY DESTIN'S NAVARRE All your favorites, plus live music with Beachcomber Music Award winner Austin Jennings every Saturday night from 8 to 11. Open Sun.-Thu., 11 AM-8 PM, and Fri.-Sat., 11 AM-9 PM. 8673 Navarre Parkway, Navarre, 850-710-7070.

DEWEY DESTIN'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT Get fed with the real locals on Calhoun. Dine inside or out on the water, choosing from grilled and fried local fish and shellfish. Oysters, scallops, shrimp, crab, yellowfin and daily catch served in baskets, on platters or on sandwiches with gumbo, apps and salads that all go well with the laid-back setting. Beer and wine. Open daily at 11 AM 9 Calhoun Avenue, Destin, 850-837-7575.

FLOYD'S SHRIMP HOUSE A local favorite for shrimp, crab and seafood. Signature cocktails, kids' play area. Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-243-2232. **FLOYDSSHRIMPHOUSE.COM**

GRANDE VISTA BAR & GRILL Located in the Emerald Grande. Open daily 7 AM-9 PM for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Grande Vista Bar & Grill has delicious local seafood, signature sandwiches and mouth-watering burgers. Enjoy casual or business lunch inside or poolside overlooking the Destin Harbor. Enjoy special drink prices inside or outside at our poolside bar. The view from our pool deck is simply breathtaking. Half-priced drinks daily, 4-6 PM 10 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8100 x1550. **info@emeraldgrande.com.**

HARBOR DOCKS on the historic Destin Harbor has been serving simply prepared Gulf to table seafood from its own market since 1979. Offering hearty breakfasts, a lunch menu featuring blue plate specials alongside authentic Thai dishes, and the area's best sushi by world famous Chef Yoshie Eddings. In addition to traditional Gulf seafood dishes, there is something for everyone. 538 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-2506. **harbordocks.com.**

HARRY T'S LIGHTHOUSE Located in HarborWalk Village right on the beautiful Destin Harbor, Harry T's has something for all ages! With entrees ranging from fresh local seafood to our gourmet hamburgers, there's something for everyone! Voted Best Place to Watch the Sunset four years in a row, our outside deck offers an unparalleled view of the Destin Harbor. Mega Happy Hour Mon.-Fri. 11 AM-7 PM 46 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-654-4800. **info@harryts.co.**

OLD BAY STEAMER Wide variety of fresh steamed seafood served in every imaginable combination. Choose from crab, shrimp, lobster, oysters, clams, mussels, and fresh catch of the day. Pasta and steak/seafood pairings also offered. Friendly, efficient service. Open daily for dinner, with full bar. $4-27, 102 Santa Rosa Blvd., Okaloosa Island, 664-2795.

ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK Located on the water. The Crab Shack serves crab, shrimp, oysters, mussels, scallops and assorted local fish in an informal and family-friendly atmosphere. Crab steamer buckets, fried seafood baskets, sandwiches and po-boys, and some land-based items. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Daily specials, inside and outside dining. Full bar. $3-45. 104 Miracle Strip Pkwy., Fort Walton Beach. 850-664-0345.

POMPANO JOE'S Come on in for some fun and fresh seafood with a very exciting flavor. Try our famous reggae rolls and our garlic crusted grouper! Lunch and dinner. Open daily from 11 AM 2237 Scenic Gulf Highway, Destin. Take Holiday Road South, turn right on scenic Hwy. 98, drive down about two blocks, and you'll find us on the left side. **www.pompano-joes.com**. 850-837-2224.

SALTWATER GRILL We provide a relaxing, casual atmosphere designed to heighten the enjoyment of our customers' dining experience. Most of our tables have entertaining views of a 25,000-gallon aquarium filled with dozens of exotic fish. Our Gulf fresh seafood and choice steaks are AMazing. We welcome you to join us. Open daily—Sun.-Thu., 4-10 PM, Fri.-Sat., 4-11 PM. Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739.

STINKY'S FISH CAMP Seafood is king at this informal Santa Rosa Beach eatery. Oysters "all ways," crawfish pie, catfish or frog legs meuniere, and gumbo are just a few of the Louisiana-inspired dishes. Service is friendly and attentive. Open daily 11 AM to 10 PM Serving brunch on Sunday from 10 AM to 3 PM Beer, wine and live music at Stinky's Bait Shack from 6 to 9 PM 5960 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-3053.

THE SURF HUT Miramar Beach, 850-460-7750. **SURFHUTDESTIN.COM**

STEAKS

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE serves the finest aged, corn-fed USDA Prime beef. Broiled in a trademark 1,800° broiler and served on a plate heated to 500 degrees, your steak is presented sizzling hot at your table. Happy hour daily from 5 to 7 PM in any of our three bars, including the new East Bar. We boast an array of private event spaces, our own private billiard room, valet parking, and live entertainment five nights a week from *Billboard*-charting recording artist Michael J Thomas (upon availability). Open seven days a week at 5 PM For reservations, call 850-837-RUTH (7884) or visit **www.RuthsChrisDestin.com.**

SAMUEL'S ROADHOUSE Steaks—USDA choice or higher, aged, and hand cut daily, coated with our signature sauce and fire-grilled. Burgers—juicy and fire-grilled, made from the trimmings of ribeyes, strips and tenderloins, lightly seasoned with unique texture and flavor. Plus seafood, salads, appetizers. Daily specials, full bar. Open for dinner Mon.-Thu. and Sunday, 5-9 PM; Friday and Saturday, 5-9:30 PM. Lunch Wednesday and Sunday, 11 AM-2 PM. 114 John King Road, Crestview, 850-423-1003. **www.samuelsroadhouse.com**

SUSHI

HARBOR DOCKS on the historic Destin Harbor has been serving simply prepared Gulf to table seafood from its own market since 1979. Offering hearty breakfasts, a lunch menu featuring blue plate specials alongside authentic Thai dishes, and the area's best sushi by world famous Chef Yoshie Eddings. In addition to traditional Gulf seafood dishes, there is something for everyone. 538 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-2506. **harbordocks.com.**

JACKACUDAS SEAFOOD & SUSHI is a locally-owned seafood and sushi restaurant overlooking the historic Destin Harbor. The name derives from a famous fishing hole located 34 miles southwest of the Destin Harbor at 30'04.250N and 87'02.125W. Specializing in fresh, locally sourced seafood and products to provide our guests with classic Gulf Coast seafood dishes with New South culinary preparation. Open daily, 11 AM-10 PM 56 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-424-3507. **www.jackacudas.com.**

TAPAS AND WINE

LA CREMA TAPAS AND CHOCOLATE Spanish-inspired tapas restaurant featuring unique tapas and Spanish wines. The European vibe provides a relaxing atmosphere where we encourage guests to share dishes, converse and enjoy Rosemary Beach living. Open 11 AM-9 PM 38 Main St., Rosemary Beach, 850-624-7282, **lacrematapas.com.**

WINE BARS

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ AND WINE BAR in Shalimar is an eclectic restaurant serving lunch and dinner with a varied menu of tapas style plates, flatbreads, Panini, award-winning ZinGouda burger and lasagna at dinnertime, and unique desserts. Our wine list includes wines from around the world. We host fundraising events and are available for any special occasion. Open Mon.-Thu. 11 AM-9 PM, 11 AM-10 PM Fridays, and 5-10 PM Saturdays. 1193 B Eglin Parkway, Shalimar, 850-651-5100. **twistedgrapewinebar.com**

Where to Spend Your Happy Hours

Brotula's Seafood House & Steamer
210D Harbor Blvd., Destin
850-460-8900
When: Mon.-Fri., 2-5 PM.
Drink Specials: Half off house wines, domestic beers, well cocktails and select appetizers.

Camille's at Crystal Beach
2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin
850-337-8860
When: 3-5 PM daily.
Drink Specials: Lots, including Camille's Signature Sangria. Plus a stunning view of the Gulf.

Fokker's Pub
215 Miracle Strip Parkway SE Unit #1, Fort Walton Beach
850-244-6666
When: 3-7 PM every day except Tuesday (closed).
Drink Specials: $2 domestic beers, $3 well drinks (Jack, Jim, Bacardi, etc.), $3 house wines, $1 off everything else.

Graffiti & the Funky Blues Shack
34902 Emerald Coast Parkway, Destin
850-424-6650
GraffitiFBS.com
When: 4-7 PM daily, late night happy hour Friday and Saturday, 10 PM-midnight.

Grande Vista
Emerald Grande, HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-337-8100, ext. 1550
When: 4-6 PM daily.
Drink Specials: All drinks half off (except bottles of wine and Drink Special of the Day), plus specially priced apps.

Harry T's
HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-654-4800
When: Mon.-Fri., 11 AM-7 PM—downstairs bar only.
Drink Specials: Half off drinks.

Jackacudas
HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-424-3507
When: Monday-Friday, 2-6 PM
Drink Specials: $4 wells, $4 house wine by the glass, $4 domestic drafts. Plus $5 appetizers (Dynamite Shrimp, Southern Fried Okra, Loaded Potato Chips) and $6 select sushi rolls.

Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville
HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-460-7700
When: Monday-Friday, 10 PM-close.
Drink Specials: $3 14-ounce Bud Light or Landshark draft, $4 Barefoot cabernet and chardonnay, $5 "Who's to Blame" margaritas and "5 O'Clock Somewhere" cocktails.

La Paz
950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin
850-837-2247
When: 4-6 PM daily.
Drink Specials: $5 top shelf Margaritas, FREE chips and salsa.

Pallet Bar and Grill
449 Eglin Parkway NE, Fort Walton Beach
850-863-1399
When: Monday-Friday, 3-6 PM
Drink Specials: $1 off beer and liquor. Also, Power Hour Saturdays and Sundays during football season from 11 AM to noon—FREE Miller Lite, Bud Light and Yuengling.

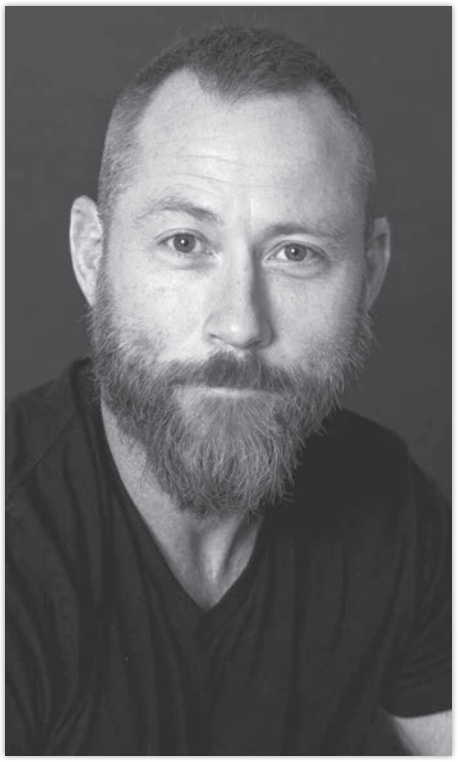
Restaurant Paradis
82 S Barrett Square, Rosemary Beach
850-534-0400
Drink Specials: Daily from 5 to 6 PM—New Amsterdam Vodka Martinis for $5. Every Tuesday and Thursday from 5 to 7 PM—$5 select martinis and $7 select wines.

Sammy's
1224 Santa Rosa Blvd.,
Fort Walton Beach
When: Early happy hour, 1-6 PM Late night happy hour, 2-4 AM Never a cover charge for escorted women, military, or restaurant-hotel-bar employees.
Drink Specials: Early happy hour—two for $5 well drinks, $10 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge. Late night happy hour—two for $6 well drinks, $12 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge after 3 AM

Twisted Grape Café and Wine Bar
1193B Eglin Parkway, Shalimar
850-651-5100
When: Monday-Friday, 11 AM-7 PM
Drink Specials: $1 off all Twisted (house) wines.

It's New Year's... Show Some Resolve!

By Carl "Redbeard" Simpson



It's that time of year, when many of us start those New Year's resolutions. Time to lose 10 pounds. Time to eat right. Time to stop yelling in traffic on 98. Whatever your resolution is, there is a not-so-small chance it will fail. Let's talk about a few pitfalls and how to avoid them.

Set specific and realistic goals. You have to know what you want to do before you do it. Is your goal to eat right? Do some real research on what diet will work best for you and your lifestyle. There are a ton of diets that have merit to them. No diet will work if it doesn't fit you. No matter what you choose, cheese puffs, candy bars and sodas are out. Is your goal to get in better shape? What does that mean to you?

Give yourself real numbers to hit as far as weight loss and, preferably, check and use your body fat percentage as a guide. Take the time to be introspective and figure out what your actual goal is, write it down and become accountable to the numbers. Be realistic with your goals. Look at it honestly, and make sure it is actually doable. If you can start now and work your way to it, even if it takes a long time…do it.

Eliminate the outside noise. This one can be touchy, but here goes. Not everyone will be supportive of your resolutions. I see this more than I should, where a person close to a client isn't very supportive or, in some cases, downright dismissive of someone's desire for change. Have frank discussions with those people and let them know how much this means to you. You will probably find that their own insecurities are coming through. If that doesn't work, put on your headphones and tune them out. This is about you and your health and happiness.

Buy in fully. I mean this both literally and figuratively. You want to get in better shape? Get a butt or some nice arms? Buy a gym membership, personal trainer or home workout equipment. Throwing money away by not using it can be a great motivator. Throw out—or better yet, donate—all your junk food and only have healthy options at home. Buy some nice clothes that you don't fit into yet. Only way you get in them is to work at it. Whatever your goal, find a way to strap yourself in.

Stop giving yourself excuses. We are all very awesome at giving ourselves reasons to not get something done. Keep workout clothes in your car. Pack your lunch if you can't find healthy options for food. Stay out of the bar after work. I promise that you will give yourself a hundred reasons not to do something. Anticipate them and get ahead of them.

Also, just because you missed a workout or strayed off your path a little does not mean that you give up. I find that this is the most likely reason for failure. We miss one or two days of exercise. We stray from our diet one week and then we quit. Your goal is for a lifetime, so you can come back from a bad week. Stop making excuses and get back in there.

If you are going to be successful at your New Year's resolution, it's going to be hard work. Make it fun. Find someone who is looking to do something similar and team up. Find a way to hold yourself accountable. When you reach that goal, don't let up. Set a new one. You will be amazed at what you can get done. Go make yourself proud.

As always, see you next month. If you have any questions, please reach out to **redbeardstrong@outlook.com.** Til next time…

Carl "Redbeard" Simpson is a fitness junkie, certified personal trainer and nutritionist, and dedicated martial arts practitioner. He is committed to helping people be the best version of themselves. "Move better – be better – Redbeard Fitness!"

Science Beyond the Classroom: The E.O. Wilson Biophilia Center

By Marilu Morgan

Standing in silence in the middle of the longleaf pine forest with thirty 7th graders, we observe the sound of the wind rustling through the leaves in the trees overhead and the distant rumble of engines on Highway 20. I see kids scribbling their observations on worksheets and others stifling giggles—three minutes is a long time for 12 and 13-year-olds to stay quiet. When our trail guide "Diamondback" Dalton calls an end to the "surround sound" activity, the group lets out a collective exhale, and the enthusiastic sounds of middle schoolers who have escaped the classroom on a school day resume.

I am tagging along with E.O. Wilson Biophilia Center Assistant Director Dalton Allen on the wetlands trail as he enlightens a group of kids on the splendor of the natural world. In addition to observing the sounds of the forest, we discover "knockdown" trees (in which the root system is exposed), hog tracks, and even a golden orb weaver spider.

In their four days at the Biophilia Center, these kids, many of whom have never taken a walk in the woods before visiting, are fully immersed in the longleaf pine ecosystem. They study flora and fauna on Nokuse Plantation, a 54,000-acre nature preserve which is home to many endangered species. They find gopher tortoises in their natural habitat and learn about the importance of their burrows in a fire-dependent forest. They hold corn snakes and indigo snakes and realize that snakes aren't dangerous if you just leave them alone when you encounter them in the wild.

They work in teams to identify characteristics of animal skulls and determine which animals are predators and which are prey. They have so much fun learning about the natural world around them that they don't realize the STEM curriculum is preparing them for Florida state testing and simultaneously instilling "biophilia," a love of all living things.

The students of Walton, Okaloosa, Bay, Holmes and Washington counties are fortunate to call the Biophilia Center and Nokuse Plantation an extension of their science classroom. Located in Freeport, the center was founded 10 years ago by conservationist and visionary M.C. Davis and named after Dr. E.O. Wilson, Harvard University professor and two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning biologist.

Dr. Wilson became enamored with small critters, especially ants, as a child in Mobile, Alabama, and he has continued studying the natural world his entire life. The Biophilia Center embodies Dr. Wilson's passion for education and the environment through its mission to "educate students and visitors on the importance of biodiversity, to promote sustainability, and to encourage conservation, preservation and restoration of ecosystems."

In addition to the 6,000 students who participate in the Biophilia Center's programs annually (over 100 students per school day), the center opens up to the public two days each week during the summer. The Biophilia Center also has a membership program with special events throughout the year, such as the "Camp-in," in which families can spend the night in the Exhibit Hall à la *Night at the Museum*,

night hikes followed by a campfire and s'mores, and the ever-popular Egg-a-Palooza complete with Easter bunny and petting zoo—my daughter talks about it all year long.

Last year, the Biophilia Center unveiled Camp Longleaf, an overnight summer camp facility and brainchild of Biophilia Center Director Paul Arthur. Camp Longleaf features six cabins, a dining hall, and engaging nature-based programming designed to spark curiosity and excitement in campers from ages 9 to 14. The first year was so successful, the Biophilia team is thrilled to offer an even greater variety of summer camp options for 2020.

Through all that the dedicated staff and volunteers do at the Biophilia Center, the overarching goal is to help build a personal connection to the world around us, nurture an appreciation for the importance of biodiversity, and ultimately instill a sense of responsibility to protect the environment.

For more details about the Biophilia Center, including volunteer opportunities, membership information, upcoming events, and summer camp information, please visit **www.biophiliacenter.org**

Marilu Morgan is a reader, runner and nature lover from North Alabama. She met her husband at the University of Alabama and followed him to Destin. You can find Marilu on Instagram **@marilumorgan** *and blogging at* **marilumorgan.com.**

Battle of the Bands, High School Jazz Style

Pictured here is the Pace High School Jazz Combo, one of eight swingin' bands set to perform in the inaugural ***Best of the West Jazz Competition*** at HarborWalk Village Saturday, **Jan. 18,** starting at 11 AM. Port O'Call will entertain during intermission.

Other hopefuls include the Arnold High School Blue Thunder Big Band out of Panama City Beach, Walton High School's Braves Jazz Ensemble, Booker T. Washington High School Symphonic Jazz Orchestra from Pensacola, South Walton Jazz Combo, Tate High School's Jazz 1, Choctawhatchee High School Jazz Band, and Escambia High School's Jazz "A."

Alaqua Helps Bahamas Farm Rebound Post-Dorian

This past October, Alaqua Animal Refuge founder **Laurie Hood** traveled to Grand Bahama Island on a mission with Animal Wellness Action (AWA) to assess three farms and their surviving animals that were almost completely demolished by Hurricane Dorian back in August 2019. The catastrophic category 5 hurricane wreaked havoc across the Abaco Islands and Grand Bahama Island with rain and wind gusts up to 220 miles per hour.

Hood, the Florida State Director for AWA, and fellow members initially visited two farms that actually had surviving owners and animals, but they needed assistance with supplies and rebuilding. AWA was able to provide for those needs, but it was the third farm that Hood would never forget.

"Ol' Freetown Farm was about 30 minutes outside the town of Freeport. We traveled over bridges that were not structurally safe and down a road with literally nothing left on either side," said Ms. Hood. "90 percent of the island had gone under water. When we finally arrived on the property, my heart just sank. I just stood there in sheer awe of the destruction."

The entire farm, formerly a tourist destination on the east end of Grand Bahama Island, was destroyed. Sissel and George Johnson had operated Ol' Freetown Farm for 10 years and had accumulated goats, donkeys, horses, chickens, ducks, turkeys, rabbits, guineas, and peacocks Previously, it was a lush property that also supplied fruits, vegetables and wellness classes for the island.

With no place to evacuate at the time, George and his family decided to ride out the storm in their home. Additionally, George's mother-in-law Virginia, who was in a wheelchair, was unable to leave.

During the eye of the storm, George looked outside to check on the barn and could see a wall of water headed their way. With water already rising in his house, he punched a hole in the ceiling and hoisted two of his dogs and wife up to the attic. Unfortunately, with the water rising, he was forced to leave two cats and three dogs in the bedroom so he could figure out a way to help Virginia, who was bound to her wheelchair and too heavy to lift. Thinking quickly, George used cables from the attic's roof truss to make a harness for her and secured her to the cabinets.

The 20-foot surge of water hit their home and the farm. Hundreds of animals drowned, as well as their longtime 41-year-old employee who tended to them.

Three agonizing days later, rescue workers came when they spotted a plea for help on the deck by the pool. Prior to the water rushing in, George had taken siding off the house and spelled out the word HELP in hopes they would be rescued…not knowing how large the waves were. George, Sissel, Virginia and the animals inside the house all survived.

Months later, George and Sissel are trying to piece their lives back together. They returned to the farm to remove debris, but rebuilding is not an option.

"One day we will figure things out. It is very tough going through photographs and memories, but in the end very inspirational," said George.

"I think what hits me so hard about this story is that this was literally Alaqua Animal Refuge in the Bahamas. This could happen to us one day, so I wanted to do something to help them," said Ms. Hood.

In an effort that comes straight from her heart and a strong desire to help this family rebound, Ms. Hood set up a fundraising page for the Johnson family and their farm. One hundred percent of the donations will go to help them rebuild their lives. Contributions can be made at **www.alaqua.org/bahamas.**

- Mary Chris Murry

Events

All information is subject to change. Please refer to the contact numbers and/or emails/websites for up-to-the-minute details. Send us your Feb. 6 and beyond events by 5 PM Thursday, **Jan. 23**. *Please submit events in the format used here. Photos welcome. Email* **chris@beachcomberdestin.com**.

THROUGH SATURDAY, FEB. 1

BAYTOWNE ON ICE
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin
BaytowneWharf.com

The seasonal ice rink is the perfect opportunity to share some favorite holiday traditions. Hours vary daily.

THURSDAY, JAN. 2

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

PLANETARIUM NIGHTS
Emerald Coast Science Center, Fort Walton Beach, 6 and 7 PM
Ecscience.org
Explore the constellations, solar system and more. Cost is $9 for adults, $8 for seniors, and $7 for children. Space is limited—purchase your tickets at the Science Center or call 850-664-1261.

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

FWB CHAMBER ANNUAL INSTALLATION AND AWARDS BREAKFAST
First Baptist Church, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM
FWBChamber.org
Who will win the coveted Mert Wagner Volunteer of the Year award? Business of the Year? The Hugh Kendall Community Impact Award? Admission is $20 for Chamber members, and $35 for non-members. Sponsored tables of eight available—call 850-244-8191 for more info.

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

BENEFIT FOR THE KEVIN SMITH FAMILY
Hannah Marie Dolphin Cruises, 102 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 10 and 11:30 AM
850-654-7113
Enjoy a beautiful Dolphin tour to benefit Kevin and his family. Kevin was recently diagnosed with cancer, and the trips aim to offset the costs of his treatment and recovery. Donations only, please—all proceeds will go to the family.

DOG DAYS ARE ROVER
Grayton Beer Company, Santa Rosa Beach, 11 AM-7 PM
Bring your leashed, well-behaved pup and get 10 percent off your tab.

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

NAVAL LIVE OAKS RESERVATION CLEANUP
1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, 8:45-10 AM
Sign in at 8:45 AM near the visitors center. Buckets, bags, grabbers and gloves provided. Bring sunscreen and refillable water cup. Closed toe shoes recommended.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SAND DOLLAR SATURDAY & LOCAL MARKETPLACE
Sand Dollar Plaza, Navarre
SandDollarSaturday@gmail.com
Great specials from the Sand Dollar Plaza merchants, plus gift basket giveaways.

SAVING WITH SOUL PET ADOPTION EVENT
Petsense, Crestview, 10 AM-3 PM
Savewithsoul.com
Learn about volunteering and fostering.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 AM
SeasideFL.com

SUNDAY, JAN. 5

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

TUESDAY, JAN. 7

FITNESS CLASSES FOR 50+
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, Noon-12:45 PM
850-267-2809
Join certified yoga instructor **Tricia Hagen** for a fun workout packed with exercises that will help maintain and improve fitness levels. Space is limited. Call Ms. Hagen at 850-974-2303 or email **patriciahagen5@gmail.com** for more info.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

RISE & RUN
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
The run club meets at Camille's for coffee at 6 AM, then embarks on a barefoot beach run at 6:15.

Events

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

FILMMAKERS NIC AND ELAM STOLZFUS
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 AM
850-267-2809
Join the Emmy-winning documentarians for a screening of *Southwest Florida's Mangrove Coast,* which covers the 40-year history of Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

LADIES' NIGHT
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
www.CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
Half off drinks for the ladies! Two bucks off sushi rolls!

THURSDAY, JAN. 9

FITNESS CLASSES FOR 50+
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, Noon-12:45 PM
850-267-2809
Space is limited. Call Tricia at 850-974-2303 or email **patriciahagen5@gmail.com** for more info.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

DOLLAR DAYS
De'France Indoor Fleamarket Antiques & Collectibles, Fort Walton Beach, 9 AM-6 PM
Defranceantiques.com
Amazing deals throughout the store, including some hidden "dollar deals."

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 AM
SeasideFL.com

SUNDAY, JAN. 12

BRUNCH, RHYTHM & BREWS
HarborWalk Village, Destin
HarborWalkVillage.com
Enjoy brunch and brews at **Harry T's, Jackacudas** and **Margaritaville,** then soak up the sounds of **The Two Hoodoos** on the main stage at 2 PM.

DOLLAR DAYS
De'France Indoor Fleamarket Antiques & Collectibles, Fort Walton Beach, 9 AM-5 PM
Defranceantiques.com
Amazing deals throughout the store, including some hidden "dollar deals."

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

TUESDAY, JAN. 14

FITNESS CLASSES FOR 50+
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, Noon-12:45 PM
850-267-2809
Space is limited. Call Tricia at 850-974-2303 or email **patriciahagen5@gmail.com** for more info.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

RISE & RUN
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
The run club meets at Camille's for coffee at 6 AM, then embarks on a barefoot beach run at 6:15.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15

"ACHIEVING GOALS – FAMILY PRESENTATION"
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 3:30-4:30 PM
850-267-2809
Join author **John Segal** *(Poor Smart Rich),* who invites young people and their families to a presentation on setting life goals.

LADIES' NIGHT
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
www.CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
Half off drinks for the ladies! Two bucks off sushi rolls!

SONGWRITER-SCIENTIST TANYA GALLAGHER
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 AM
850-267-2809
The Pensacola native speaks and sings. Her latest EP of soulful folk-pop songs is *One Hand on My Heart.*

THURSDAY, JAN. 16

FITNESS CLASSES FOR 50+
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, Noon-12:45 PM
850-267-2809
Space is limited. Call Tricia at 850-974-2303 or email **patriciahagen5@gmail.com** for more info.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

WINTER GUEST FEST
Emerald Coast Convention Center, Okaloosa Island, 8 AM-Noon
FWBChamber.org
Presented by ResortQuest, this is the area's best attended trade show for over 1,500 winter visitors. Returning favorites and new vendors represent dining, resorts, shopping, hotels, entertainment and more. Admission is $2 per person at the door.

To register as a vendor, call 850-244-8191 or email **rachelle@fwbchamber.org.**

SATURDAY, JAN. 18

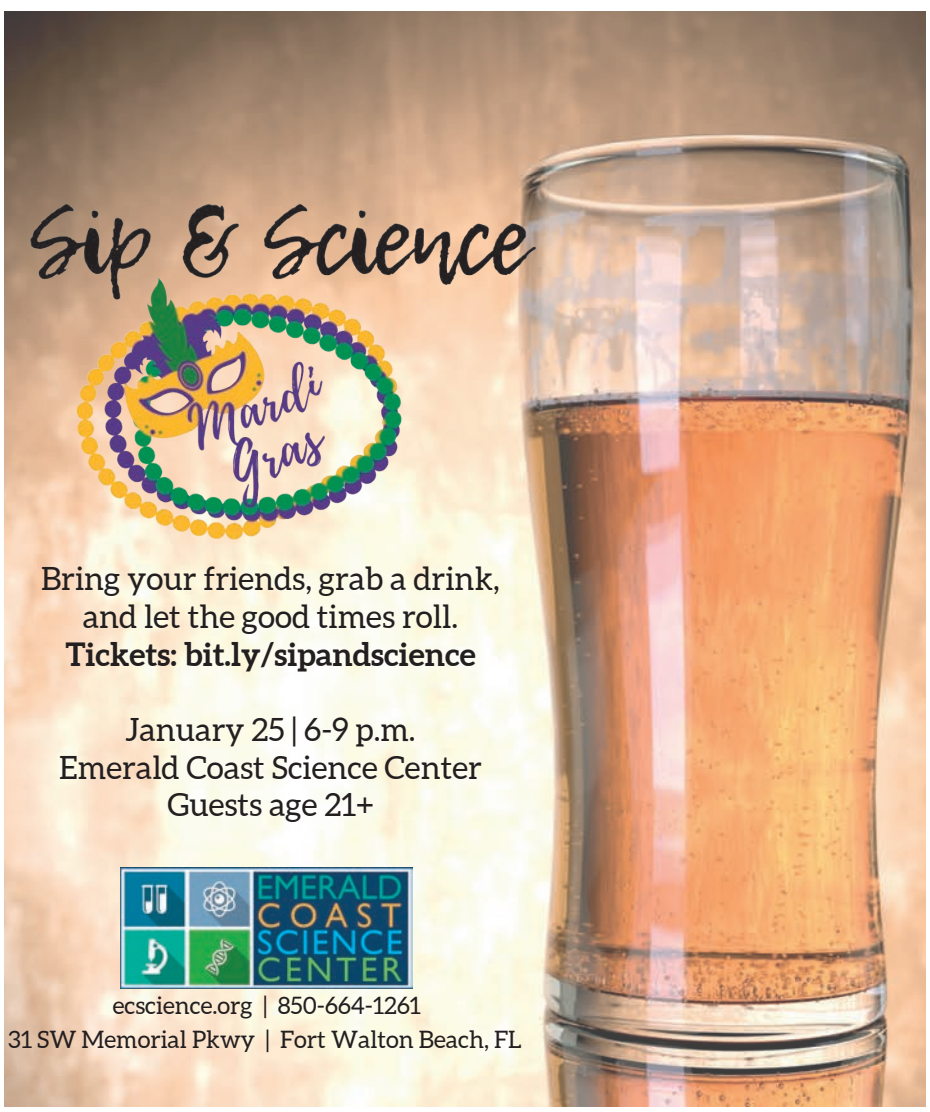
GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 AM
SeasideFL.com

SUNDAY, JAN. 19

BRUNCH, RHYTHM & BREWS
HarborWalk Village, Destin
HarborWalkVillage.com
Enjoy brunch and brews at **Harry T's, Jackacudas** and **Margaritaville,** then soak up the sounds of **The Northwest Florida State College Jazz Band** on the main stage at 2 PM.



Events

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

TUESDAY, JAN. 21

FITNESS CLASSES FOR 50+
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, Noon-12:45 PM
850-267-2809
Space is limited. Call Tricia at 850-974-2303 or email **patriciahagen5@gmail.com** for more info.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22

"ACHIEVING GOALS – FAMILY PRESENTATION"
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 3:30-4:30 PM
850-267-2809
Join author **John Segal** *(Poor Smart Rich)*, who invites young people and their families to a presentation on setting life goals.

DESTIN HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR HANK KLEIN
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 AM
850-267-2809
Mr. Klein tells the story of the old East Pass, the inlet from the Gulf of Mexico to Choctawhatchee Bay located in Destin.

LADIES' NIGHT
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
www.CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
Half off drinks for the ladies! Two bucks off sushi rolls!

THURSDAY, JAN. 23

BUBBLY BAYTOWNE
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 5-6 PM
BaytowneWharf.com
FREE 21 and up event with champagne and shopping.

FITNESS CLASSES FOR 50+
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, Noon-12:45 PM
850-267-2809
Space is limited. Call Tricia at 850-974-2303 or email **patriciahagen5@gmail.com** for more info.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

FRIDAY, JAN. 24

EMERALD COAST OPEN LIONFISH PRE-TOURNAMENT KICKOFF PARTY
1835 Porch Bar, Dewey Destin's Harborside, Destin, 6 PM
Emeraldcoastopen.com
Sign up for the tournament, learn about the event, and enjoy giveaways, live music and complimentary light bites.

SATURDAY, JAN. 25

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

THE 12TH ANNUAL OKALOOSA ARTS ALLIANCE MUSIC & WINE
Twisted Grape Café & Wine Bar, Shalimar, 3-5 PM
OkaloosaArts.org
Get your tickets online—cost is $30 for one, two for $50—and enjoy live music, drawings, food and wine to benefit the OAA.

SUNDAY, JAN. 26

BRUNCH, RHYTHM & BREWS
HarborWalk Village, Destin
HarborWalkVillage.com
Enjoy brunch and brews at **Harry T's, Jackacudas** and **Margaritaville,** then soak up the sounds of **Metz Barnes and Mike Ingram** on the main stage at 2 PM.

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

TUESDAY, JAN. 28

FITNESS CLASSES FOR 50+
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, Noon-12:45 PM
850-267-2809
Space is limited. Call Tricia at 850-974-2303 or email **patriciahagen5@gmail.com** for more info.

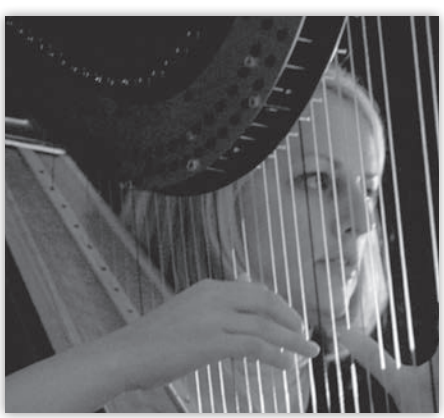
OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

RISE & RUN
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
The run club meets at Camille's for coffee at 6 AM, then embarks on a barefoot beach run at 6:15.

SIP SIP HOORAY! WINE TASTING & FOOD PAIRING
Camille's Café, Destin, 3-5 PM

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29

HARPIST KATIE OTT
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 AM
850-267-2809



Ms. Ott will perform and talk about the evolution of her instrument of choice. Learn more at **katieott.com.**

LADIES' NIGHT
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
www.CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
Half off drinks for the ladies! Two bucks off sushi rolls!

THURSDAY, JAN. 30

FITNESS CLASSES FOR 50+
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, Noon-12:45 PM
850-267-2809
Space is limited. Call Tricia at 850-974-2303 or email **patriciahagen5@gmail.com** for more info.

LADIES NIGHT
De'France Indoor Fleamarket Antiques & Collectibles, Fort Walton Beach, 6-8:30 PM
Defranceantiques.com
Door prizes, guest vendors and great deals. Bring in your vintage jewelry and **Donna** will have a look (limit three pieces). Plus—finger food, desserts, complimentary wine.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SATURDAY, FEB. 1

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SUNDAY, FEB. 2

BRUNCH, RHYTHM & BREWS
HarborWalk Village, Destin
HarborWalkVillage.com
Enjoy brunch and brews at **Harry T's, Jackacudas** and **Margaritaville,** then soak up the sounds of **Paradise Bayou** on the main stage at 2 PM.

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

TUESDAY, FEB. 4

FITNESS CLASSES FOR 50+
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, Noon-12:45 PM
850-267-2809
Space is limited. Call Tricia at 850-974-2303 or email **patriciahagen5@gmail.com** for more info.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

RISE & RUN
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
The run club meets at Camille's for coffee at 6 AM, then embarks on a barefoot beach run at 6:15.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5

LADIES' NIGHT
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
www.CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
Half off drinks for the ladies! Two bucks off sushi rolls!

STORY, SONG AND WALTON COUNTY HISTORY WITH RONNIE McBRAYER
Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 AM
850-267-2809
The author of *Wild, Wild Walton* and *Down by the Riverside* shares the history of Walton County in story and song. Mr. McBrayer is also a local pastor, playwright and nationally syndicated columnist.

Pets

PET OF THE ISSUE OLIVER

Gretchen Peters writes: "Oliver was born August 28, 2019, in Arab, Alabama, and now lives in Nashville and Seagrove Beach. He's a Labrador retriever and is currently learning to sit, stay and be a good boy. He loves all people and dogs, but is not too sure about cats. He likes to eat leaves and steal dish towels, and he snores heavily."

Oliver's first trip to the beaches of 30A will happen this month when mom and dad—Gretchen and husband Barry Walsh—perform at the 30A Songwriters Festival.

Submit your best friend(s) to **chris@beachcomberdestin.com.**

ADOPT, DON'T SHOP NORA

Lydia Johnson from Alaqua Animal Refuge in Freeport writes: "Those adorable elf ears belong to Nora, one of the 151 dogs that were rescued out of a backyard in Holmes County. She is about a four-year-old medium-sized mixed breed pup. She had been in foster with Dog Harmony since August, learning all her basic table manners.

"Nora walks very well on the leash, and stops to ask people as they pass by for pets and forehead kisses. Nora is a big couch potato, lazy in the best way possible. Nora would jump for joy if she found a forever home!"

Learn more at **www.alaqua.org/adopt.**

Faith

SERVICES ON THE BEACH

DESTIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Sundays – 7:30 AM beach services at the Crab Trap, Destin; and the Crab Trap, Okaloosa Island Boardwalk. Sunset beach service at Henderson Beach State Park, Destin, 5:30 PM. **DestinUMC.org**

HOPE ON THE BEACH
Beach worship at 8 AM at Ed Walline Beach, across from Gulf Place in Santa Rosa Beach; and at Inlet Beach, at the Orange Street beach access. For more information, call 850-267-0322 or email **pastorj@hopeonthebeach.org**.

NAVARRE BEACHSIDE CHURCH
Nondenominational Christian church service meets outdoors every Sunday at 9 AM in the Navarre Beach parking lot, located at 8579 Gulf Boulevard. Children's church provided, pets always welcome. Look for the white tents. 850-939-1533. **www.navarrebeachchurch.com**

DESTIN

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH
Mass schedule (through Sept. 30)—Sunday, 8 AM and 10:30 AM; Saturday, confessions from 4 to 4:30 PM, mass at 5 PM; daily mass Monday through Friday, 8 AM; First Friday Adoration, 8:30-9:30 AM; First Saturday Mass, 8 AM Holy Days of Obligation, 8 AM and 6:30 PM. 307 Beach Drive.

DESTIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Contemporary service in the Sanctuary Sundays at 9 AM. Contemporary Xalt service at 10:30 AM in the Destin Life Center. Traditional service in the Sanctuary at 11 AM. **DestinUMC.org**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DESTIN
Sunday bible study at 9:15 AM, worship service at 10:30 AM, prayer and outreach at 5 PM. Wednesday service at 6:15 PM. 201 Beach Drive, 850-837-6515.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday worship service, 9:30 AM. Sunday school for kids, confirmation class for youth, and adult bible study, 10:45 AM. 4325 Commons Drive, 850-654-1679.

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
Saturday vigil mass, 5 PM; Sunday masses, 8 and 10:30 AM; daily liturgies Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM; Holy Days of Obligation, 8:30 AM and 6 PM; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Fridays, 9-10 AM; confessions, Saturdays, 4-4:45 PM or by appointment. 259 Miramar Beach Dr., 850-837-0358.

SAFE HARBOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday school at 9:30 AM, worship service at 10:30. 801 Airport Road, 850-837-2133.

SHORELINE CHURCH
Non-denominational Sunday services at 8:30, 10 and 11:30 AM. 140 Palmetto Street in the old Nightown building. **www.shorelinechurch.net**

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Service at 10 AM Sundays. 307 U.S. 98 E, 850-650-2737.

VILLAGE BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 AM. 101 Matthew Blvd., one block south of U.S. 98 E, 850-837-8107.

FORT WALTON BEACH

GATHERING
151 Eglin Pkwy NE. **comegather.com**.

ISLAMIC DA AWA CENTER OF FWB
6 Hollywood Blvd. SW, 850-664-0373, **lavidaeterna.org**

KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
216 Jonquil Avenue NW.

ST. MARKELLA & DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
Sunday service at 10 AM. 400 U.S. 98 E, Mary Esther, 850-244-0822.

ST. SIMON'S ON THE SOUND EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Sunday services at 8 and 10:30 AM and 5 PM. 28 U.S. 98 W, 850-244-8621.

MIRAMAR BEACH

ALIVE CHAPEL
Sundays – coffee fellowship, 9 AM; praise and worship, 9:30 AM; pastor's message, 10 AM. Located at 12381 U.S. 98. **www.theALIVECHAPEL.org**

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Sunday worship services at 8:45 and 11 AM. Nursery and children's church is available. Wednesday bible study at 7 PM. Located at 306 S. Geronimo St.., three blocks west of Silver Sands Outlet Mall. 850-837-7561.

NICEVILLE

NICEVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday bible study at 9 AM, worship at 10 AM. Sunday evening service, 5 PM. Mid-week bible study Wednesdays at 7 PM. 801 John Sims Parkway E, 850-678-2911.

SHALIMAR

RESURRECTION ANGLICAN CHURCH
1928 Book of Common Prayer Service, 10 AM Sundays, communion service second and fourth Sundays, morning prayer, first and third Sundays. 66 8th Street, 850-651-9800.

30A / SOUTH WALTON

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SEAGROVE
Sunday services at 10 AM and Wednesdays at 6 PM. 4915 E Hwy. 30A, Seagrove, 850-231-2884.

GOOD NEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Sunday services – 8:15 AM, traditional; 9:30 and 11 AM, contemporary. 4747 U.S. 98 W, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-9191.

HOPE ON THE BEACH
Beach worship at 8 AM at Ed Walline Beach, across from Gulf Place; and at Inlet Beach, at the Orange Street beach access. Worship at 9:30 AM at Shunk Gulley Oyster Bar, on the corner of 393 and 30A. And worship at 11 AM at our 98 Church Campus, at 3834 U.S. 98 W, Santa Rosa Beach. For more information, call 850-267-0322 or email **pastorj@hopeonthebeach.org**.

SANTA ROSA BEACH COMMUNITY CHURCH
Interdenominational service 10 AM Sundays. 3524 U.S. 98, 850-267-7599.

ST. RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH
Saturday vigil, 5:30 PM, 7 PM (en Espanol); Sunday, 8 AM, 11 AM and 5 PM; Mon.-Sat., 8:30 AM; confessions every Saturday, 4-5 PM. For Holy Day services, please call the office. 137 Moll Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, just off U.S. 98. 850-267-2558. **www.saintritaparish.org**

Something We Can Build On: A Chat with Steve Ingram

Steve Ingram *has been living and working here for over two decades. Before moving here in 1997, he was a builder in Memphis and worked for the Secret Service during the Ford and Carter presidencies.*

He and Sharon, his wife of 21 years, live in Santa Rosa Beach. Mr. Ingram has two sons—Stephen, who's 42 and currently serving as a hospital chaplain at the Birmingham Children's Hospital, and 30-year-old Michael, a professional musician in the area. Rounding out the family, you'll find two dogs, Buddy and Grover—the latter a former Beachcomber *Pet of the Issue—and Lilly, "the meanest damn cat in the world."*

What exactly do you do, as far as your business goes?
It's a one-man business, a one-stop shop. I build affordable homes and navigate through the very complicated permitting processes. After they hire me, I handle everything from that point on, walk them through the process. The main thing is, I'm trying to build homes to fit everyone's budget.

Steve and Sharon Ingram with November 2018 Pet of the Issue Grover.

I build what's called turnkey houses—when it's done, you can move right in. Everything is included in the sales contract. They can meet my representatives. All of them are local and have been with me for 15 years now. They know what they're doing, and try to keep things on track with budgets.

If they don't have a house plan ready, I send them to Jeff Prescott, my architect, who will design the home in line with their budget.

What do you offer that other builders cannot?
Personal service. Having open communications with each one of my customers, keeping them in the loop. I specialize in beach cottages, not monster homes. I'm doing from 3,500 square feet down, roughly. We have a lot of plans people can look at—a lot of people don't know what they want to build.

The main thing, when they come to me, they get a lot of experience in how to design the home they want. Service from the beginning to the very end.

What is the current status of the labor market?
Part of this business is about being in command of your subcontractors. I came here when Memphis building had slowed down, and my framers weren't working as much. I told them about the tons of building happening here, so they moved here and brought their crews down. And they've prospered. They don't just work for me, but when I need them, they come. We have a good relationship. It helps that I pay them on time!

How is the market looking now as far as buying and building a custom home?
Don't let the word custom make you think it's expensive. Most of these houses are people's dream homes. It's a big deal.

I do a certain style, most of them are in the $250-300,000 range. I build on people's lots that are already owned. Or they come and find a lot with my help. Buying a lot in Florida is risky—if you don't know what you're doing, you'll end up in a flood zone. I try to help find those red flags. And you have to know all the rules to help people with zoning and planning in Okaloosa and Walton counties.

Another job well done!

As far as buying now, why put it off? The longer you take, the materials go up in price.

Where can people find out more about your business?
I have an ad in *Beachcomber!* It helps a lot. I've gotten a lot of calls from that. And my website, **SteveIngramHomes.com.**

Places to Go: Destin, 30A, Fort Walton Beach and Beyond

ANTIQUES

DE FRANCE ANTIQUES & FLEA MKT. with over 80+ vendors, lots of unique items to choose from. 230 S.E. Eglin Pkwy. 850-314-7500.

SMITH'S ANTIQUES MALL & INTERIORS MARKET 25,000 sq. ft. and 94 vetted dealers have made Smith's the favorite with decorators, locals and tourists for over 20 years. Voted Best of the Emerald Coast for 14 consecutive years, Finest on the Emerald Coast, and Best in Destin…need we say more? Mon.-Sat., 10 AM-6 PM; Sun., 11 AM-5 PM 12500 Emerald Coast Parkway, Miramar Beach (near Silver Sands). 850-654-1484. **www.smithsantiquesmall.com.**

BEACH SCIENCE

EMERALD COAST SCIENCE CENTER A unique museum home to hands-on, interactive exhibits for all ages, with over 35 exotic animals and SMALLab Learning. 31 SW Memorial Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, 850-664-1261. **www.ecscience.org.**

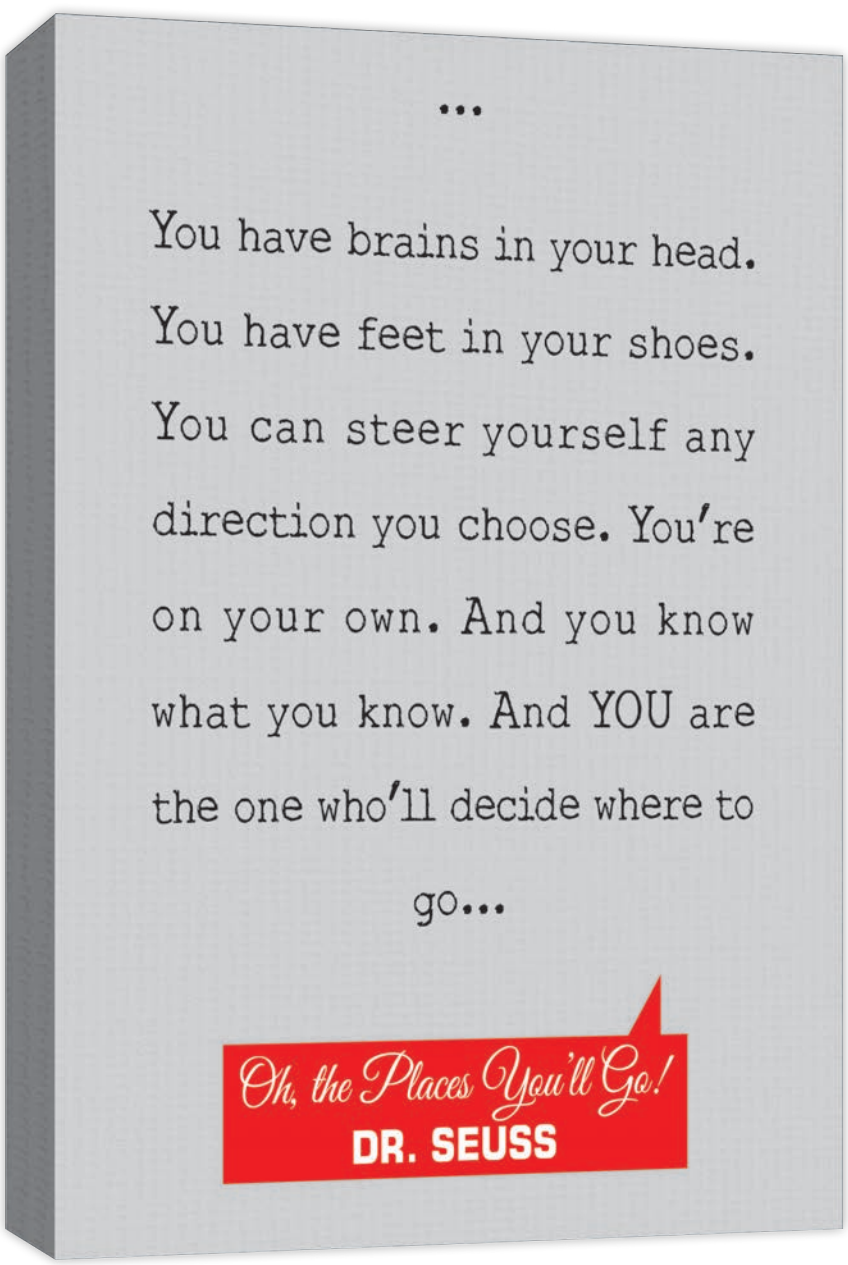
GOLF

REGATTA BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB This award-winning 18-hole course offers an extraordinary golfing experience for players of all skill levels and was named one of *Golf Digest's* Top Places to Play. Equipment rental available. 465 Regatta Bay Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8080. **www.regattabay.com.**

SANTA ROSA GOLF & BEACH CLUB Referred to as the "Purest golf in the Florida Panhandle" by *Golf* Magazine, this 18-hole, par 72 course offers five sets of tees and a challenge for every skill level of handicap. Situated on 80 pristine acres in the heart of Santa Rosa Beach, this course has a unique character only found around the Highway 30A corridor. Holes three through five wind around a complex of dunes, all within a few hundred yards of the Gulf of Mexico. Dining, driving range, putting green and club rentals available. 334 Golf Club Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2229. **www.santarosaclub.com.**

MARINE PARKS

GULFARIUM MARINE ADVENTURE PARK Delight in watching dolphins leap and sea lions play during spectacular shows! Or participate and interact directly with these and other remarkable marine animals including stingrays, seals and penguins during interactive programming (advance reservations required). Enjoy educational exhibits and beautiful Gulf views. Open daily at 9 AM 1010 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-243-9046. **www.gulfarium.com.**



MUSEUMS

DESTIN HISTORY & FISHING MUSEUM Open year round, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM Call for holiday hours of operation. Admission is $5 for adults, $4 for seniors and military and $3 for children. 108 Stahlman Avenue, Destin, 850-837-6611.

INDIAN TEMPLE MOUND MUSEUM Artifacts and displays showing the rich Indian history of this area. 139 Hwy. 98SE, FWB, 850-833-9595.

MUSIC STORES

FW VINTAGE RECORDS Full service record store with over 20,000 vintage vinyl records and new music releases on vinyl. Audio systems, CDs, cassettes, record cleaning supplies, posters, pins, phono cartridges. Gift certificates, rewards program and limited repair service for turntables, speakers and receivers. Open Mondays and Wed.-Sun., 11 AM-7 PM; Tuesdays, 11 AM to 4:30 PM. 217 Racetrack Road NW, Fort Walton Beach, 850-384-6654. **www.fortwaltonvintagerecords.com**

LEITZ MUSIC Guitars, bass, drums and keyboards, plus recording, DJ and PA equipment. Sales, repairs and lessons. Gibson, Fender, PRS, Taylor, Martin, Ibanez and more. Open Mon.-Sat. 10 AM-7 PM, Sundays noon-5 PM Located in Uptown Station, Fort Walton Beach, 850-863-1099. **www.facebook.com/LeitzMusicFWB.**

PARKS & PUBLIC BEACH ACCESS

BEASLEY WAYSIDE PARK Picnic tables, public beach area, barbecue grills, bathhouse, and restrooms. Gulf side of Okaloosa Island, Hwy. 98W.

BLACKWATER RIVER STATE PARK NW of FWB off Hwy. 90. You can catch sight of lots of wildlife while camping, canoeing, hiking, and fishing. Milton, 850-983-5363.

BLUE MOUNTAIN BEACH Public parking for this access is located at the south end of CR-83 and Scenic Highway 30-A.

BRACKIN WAYSIDE PARK Gulf side of Okaloosa Island on Hwy. 98W. Facilities include restaurants, saloons, children's playground, beach volleyball, three beach accesses, showers, public restrooms, and picnic table.

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK offers hiking, birding, beachcombing, swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking along with nine historic buildings. Located at 23937 Panama City Beach Parkway (U.S. 98), 12 miles east of 331, seven miles west of Highway 79. 850-233-5059.

CESSNA BAY Picnic tables, parking, rest rooms and boat access. 1476 N. CR-393.

CLEMENT E. TAYLOR CITY PARK This park is named after one of Destin's early settlers and is on Choctawhatchee Bay. Chock full of shade trees, there are picnic areas and restrooms, but no camping. Destin, off Calhoun Avenue.

DUNE ALLEN In Dune Allen beach this access has parking, but no bathrooms, showers or picnic area. 5753 Hwy 30-A W., Santa Rosa Beach.

ED WALLINE A large public beach access in South Walton, providing handicapped parking, picnic tables, restrooms and showers. Intersection of Hwy 30-A and CR-393.

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK An historic homestead under majestic, moss-draped oaks with a home surrounded by lawns and seasonal gardens. Tours of the home are Thursday through Monday hourly beginning at 10 AM with the last tour at 3 PM The park and picnic areas are open daily from 8 AM to sunset and located on CR-395 north off Hwy 98 in Point Washington. Call 850-231-4214 for more information.

GRAYTON BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA Camping, picnics, hiking, swimming, saltwater fishing, and boating. Showers and electricity are part of the AMenities. Access from S. Hwy. 30-A, South Walton, 850-267-8300.

GRAYTON DUNES Handicapped and public parking plus beach access. Behind the Red Bar in Grayton Beach.

GULF SHORE MANOR Public restrooms, handicapped and public parking. 3468 E. Hwy 30-A, Seagrove Beach.

GULFVIEW HEIGHTS Located at the end of Gulfview Heights St, behind Goatfeather's restaurant, this access offers parking, picnic areas and restrooms.

HENDERSON BEACH STATE PARK This park has it all: camping, swimming area sheltered picnic areas, grills, and restrooms. But there is no boat ramp and jet skis and other personal watercraft are prohibited. 17000 Hwy. 98W, Destin, 850-837-7550.

INLET BEACH This area offers handicapped and public parking, restrooms and dune walkovers to the beach. 438 S. Orange St. in Inlet Beach.

LEGION BAY Picnic tables, public parking, boat ramp and restrooms. Intersection of Ponce de Leon and Crest Dr, 191 Crest Dr, Sandestin.

MARLER MEMORIAL PARK Public beach area, picnic tables, barbecue grills, boat ramp, restrooms and bathhouse. Bay side of Okaloosa Island, off Santa Rosa Blvd.

MIRAMAR BEACH ACCESS Parking with public beach access. Scenic Hwy 98 and Driftwood Road, adjacent to Pompano Joe's.

TOPSAIL HILL PRESERVE STATE PARK offers a wide variety of natural resources, including 3.2 miles of public beach access with majestic dunes over 25 feet tall. Our 1,600 acre preserve includes rare coastal dune lakes, old-growth long leaf pines and sand pine scrub, and a variety of wetlands offer a bird watching and hiking paradise. Visitors may bike, walk,or enjoy a quick ride to the beach on our timely tram service to swim, fish, sunbathe or beachcomb. Topsail Hill offers weekly ranger programs for all visitors to enjoy. A park store offers a variety of camping items, as well as souvenirs and bike, kayak, canoe and SUP rentals. Topsail Hill offers weekly ranger programs for all visitors to enjoy. Gregory E. Moore RV resort features a (non-heated) swimming pool and shuffleboard courts. Furnished bungalows are available for weekly stays. 7525 West County Highway 30A Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-8330. **www.floridastateparks.org/topsailhill.**

THRIFT STORES

JUNKYARD DOG GIFT N THRIFT Voted Finest on the Emerald Coast, the store showcases a wide selection of art, furniture, home décor, linens, military items and collectibles. Rare pieces and antiques arrive daily from donors who support the store's mission. All proceeds go to support the Humane Society and Adoptive Center at PAWS. Open Tue.-Sat., 10 AM-4 PM. 179 Eglin Parkway NE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-1830. Follow **junkyarddoggiftnthriftstore** on Facebook**.**

Looking Forward: The Big Events of 2020... So Far

WINTER

JAN. 17-20

30A SONGWRITERS FESTIVAL
Various Locations Throughout South Walton
www.30asongwritersfestival.com

Brian Wilson, the genius behind the Beach Boys, is set to perform at the 2020 30A Songwriters Festival.

This year's lineup includes returning favorites **Becky Warren, Carlene Carter, Chas Sandford, Chely Wright, Daphne Willis, Grayson Capps, Gretchen Peters, Hayes Carll, James McMurtry, Kim Richey, Marshall Chapman, Mary Gauthier, Randall Bramblett, Sugarcane Jane, Tommy Womack,** and **Will Kimbrough;** local favorites **Boukou Groove, Casey Kearney, Chris Alvarado, Kyle LaMonica** and **Max McCann;** must-see festival first-timers **Elizabeth Cook, Lucy Dacus,** and **Will Hoge;** and big name headliners **Brian Wilson, Don McLean, John Prine** and **Peter Yarrow.** Plus literally hundreds more.

FEB. 14 AND 15

THE 31ST ANNUAL SANDESTIN GUMBO FESTIVAL
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin
www.sandestingumbofestival.com
Sample a variety of gumbo and vote for the People's Choice winner, and see who wins over the celebrity judges. Gulf Coast restaurants take the spotlight, and there will be children's activi-

ties and live music from **Dikki Du and the Zydeco Krewe.** The festival also brings back the Bloody Mary component, and you get to be the judge for Best Bloody Mary on the Beach!

SPRING

MARCH 5-19

BEACH BASH MUSIC FEST
Al's Beach Club, Okaloosa Island Boardwalk
www.alsbeachclub.com
No details at press time, but anyone who attended the last two Beachcomber Music Awards knows this is one of the best live music venues around. And that view…

APRIL 16-19

SANDESTIN WINE FESTIVAL
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin
www.sandestinwinefestival.com

Get uncorked with one of spring's most celebrated events, benefiting **Fisher House** and **Sandestin Foundation for Kids.** Tickets are available online now, so why wait?

MAY 9 AND 10

ARTSQUEST FINE ARTS FESTIVAL
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, Miramar Beach
www.culturalartsalliance.com

Submission deadline for artists interested in participating is Friday, **March 6.** Categories include mixed media, ceramics, works on paper, fiberglass, jewelry, metal, oils and acrylics, photography, digital art, sculpture, and wood.

SUMMER

AUG. 5-8

BOAT WEEK ON THE EMERALD COAST
www.emeraldcoastpokerrun.com

The annual event culminates in powerboats, fishing boats, pleasure boats and all in between filling the waterways for one of the largest and most popular charity poker runs in the U.S.A. on **Aug. 8.** All proceeds benefit children's charities of the **Emerald Coast Foundation,** and to date the foundation has raised over $2.5 million for local kids in need.

FALL

OCT. 2-4

DESTIN SEAFOOD FESTIVAL
Destin Harbor / HarborWalk Village
DestinSeafoodFestival.com

With this food, music and fun-filled weekend and the Destin Fishing Rodeo taking place all month long, the beautiful Destin Harbor will be unavoidable in October.

Please note that this is just a small sampling of the great things happening on the Emerald Coast in 2020. Submit your upcoming events to **chris@BeachcomberDestin.com** and pick up a fresh copy of *Beachcomber* for the most up-to-date information.

Life in Pink: Sinfonia's Annual Crescendo Fundraiser Set for Valentine's Weekend

Event Raises Money for Music Education in Okaloosa and Walton Counties

Sinfonia Gulf Coast, our region's only fully professional symphony orchestra, is pleased to announce the full lineup for its annual fundraiser ***Crescendo! A Cultural and Culinary Extravaganza,*** slated for **Feb. 14-16.**

On Friday, Feb. 14, at 6 PM, *Crescendo!* will begin with a series of carefully curated vintner dinners hosted in elegant homes and venues throughout the Emerald Coast, pairing the talents of local and regional "celebrity" chefs with some of the country's most acclaimed vineyards for a delicious evening of food and wine.

Participating vintners include Bouchaine Vineyards, Tournesol, Rombauer, Theorem, and On Q. Culinary maestros include top chefs from the Gulf Coast region and beyond—Luis Pous of Asia de Cuba, Orion Cordóves of the Savory Restaurant Group, and Ryan McNay and Richard McCord of MARROW. Vintner Dinner tickets are $295 per person and include all food, wine and gratuities.

This year's main event is themed "La Vie en Rosé [Life in Pink]" and is set for Sunday, Feb. 16, at 11:30 AM at the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa in Miramar Beach. This energy-infused event experience will celebrate the cultural and culinary arts by showcasing world-class vintners, expert spirit purveyors, amazing auction items, and an "electrifying" performance by award-winning musical guest **Violectric.**

Enjoy reserved table seating, *hors d'oeuvres,* a full seated lunch, live and silent auctions, and an all-inclusive afternoon of incredible fun.

Tickets to *Crescendo!* 2020 are $150 per person and include all food, wine, reserved table seating, performance and valet parking. Tables of 10 may be reserved by calling 850-460-8800. Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

Proceeds from *Crescendo!* will benefit Sinfonia and its music education programs, which include musicians/guest artists in schools, free orchestra concerts, bus transportation for students, Sinfonia Youth Orchestra program, Arts in Medicine initiative with Sacred Heart Hospital, and LINK UP concerts for third through fifth graders in partnership with Carnegie Hall.

Crescendo! is made possible by the generous support of local businesses including the following co-presenting sponsors—Dermatology Solutions | Aqua Med Spa, The Center for Cosmetic & Family Dentistry, Silver Sands Premium Outlets, Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, SETCO Services, and Visit South Walton.

Are you a "treble" maker? If so, Sinfonia Gulf Coast invites you to join this honorary committee. For a $500 contribution, Treble Makers will receive one ticket to the *Crescendo!* Kick-Off Lunch and Main Event, recognition in the event program, invitation to the 2020 Thank You Party, a reserved seat at the closed-to-the-public student LINK UP performances on **March 3** at the Emerald Coast Convention Center, plus a special Treble Maker gift.

For more information on how you can join Sinfonia's team of volunteers, contact Beth Clavier at 850-460-8800 and or email **bclavier@sinfoniagulfcoast.org.**

For more information or to purchase *Crescendo!* tickets, visit **www.sinfoniagulfcoast.org.**

Upcoming Music Releases

JAN. 10

Beach Slang, ***The Deadbeat Bang of Heartbreak City***

Glen Campbell, ***Old Home Town: The Collection***

Ronnie Dunn, ***RE-DUNN***

Georgia, ***Seeking Thrills****

Selena Gomez, ***SG2****

Kesha, ***High Road***

Stax Number Ones*

JAN. 17

Algiers, ***There Is No Year****

...And You Will Know Us By the Trail of Dead, ***X: The Godless Void and Other Stories****

Marshall Crenshaw, ***Miracle of Science (Deluxe Edition)****

Della Mae, ***Headlight****

G. Love, ***The Juice****

Halsey, ***Manic****

Marcus King, ***El Dorado****

Little Big Town, ***Nightfall****

Dustin Lynch, ***Tullahoma***

of Montreal, ***UR FUN*****

JAN. 24

Breaking Benjamin, ***Aurora****

Kree Harrison, ***Chosen Family Tree***

Higher Power, ***27 Miles Underwater****

Elton John with Ray Cooper, ***Live from Moscow 1979****

Pet Shop Boys, ***Hotspot***

Supergrass, ***The Strange Ones: 1994-2008****

Wolf Parade, ***Thin Mind*****

The Wood Brothers, ***Kingdom in My Mind****

JAN. 31

Neneh Cherry, ***Raw Like Sushi (30th Anniversary Edition)****

Drive-By Truckers, ***The Unraveling****

Dustbowl Revival, ***Is It You, Is It Me****

Tinsley Ellis, ***Ice Cream in Hell***

Jose Feliciano, ***Behind This Guitar****

Theory of a Deadman, ***Say Nothing****

Louis Tomlinson, ***Walls****

Meghan Trainor, ***Treat Myself***

* Also on Vinyl
** Also on Vinyl and Cassette

Sources: Allmusic.com, Pauseandplay.com

The Records That Changed My Life: Gileah Taylor

Gileah Taylor performs at the Emerald Coast Theatre Company's Storytellers series in Miramar Beach Thursday, Jan. 9.

A Life Lived in Song, my show at Emerald Coast Theatre Company on **Jan. 9,** is a bit of a career retrospective. The story begins in the late 90s. I'll sing through my very favorite songs I've written and tell the stories behind them. A very special guest will be joining me on stage, my husband Chris Taylor.

I didn't get an allowance when I was a kid. However, my dad would pay me five dollars for every song that I could sing note for note. Amy Grant's "Lead Me On," released when I was 8, was one of the records I loved memorizing. Dad and I both still love to play and sing "If These Walls Could Speak."

When I was 19, **The Innocence Mission** released ***Birds of My Neighborhood,*** and nobody had to pay me to memorize that one! I often myself singing or humming melodies from this record. "The Lakes of Canada" is a standout. Interestingly, the writers for this band co-wrote a song called "Shadows" on Amy Grant's *Lead Me On* album.

Fast forward a decade, when **Jeremy Enigk** released ***OK Bear.*** I'd been a fan for half my life at this point, ever since he started out with the band Sunny Day Real Estate. I've chosen this record from his catalog because it heavily influenced the writing on my album *Songs For Late at Night Vol. 2.* I think I listened to *OK Bear* and nothing else for a good four months. "Vale Oso" is moving and gorgeous.

CRESCENDO!
An event supporting **Sinfonia Gulf Coast**

A CULTURAL AND CULINARY EXTRAVAGANZA!

KICK-OFF LUNCH
Thursday, January 16, 2020 | 11 AM
Bijoux Restaurant + Spirits
$100/person

VINTNER DINNERS
Friday, February 14, 2020 | 6 PM
Celebrity vintners and chefs in stunning homes and venues
$295/person

CRESCENDO! MAIN EVENT

Sunday, February 16, 2020 | 11:30 AM
Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resource & Spa
Join us for world-class vintners, delectable bites, a seated lunch, expert spirit purveyors, amazing auction items and special guest artist:

Classic Musicians Who Rock!
VIOLECTRIC
$150/person

Presented by:
VISIT SOUTH WALTON
COSMETIC & FAMILY DENTISTRY
Hilton SANDESTIN BEACH GOLF RESORT & SPA
setco SERVICES, L.L.C.
DERMATOLOGY SPECIALISTS of Florida
AQUA MEDICAL SPA
SILVER SANDS PREMIUM OUTLETS A HOWARD GROUP AND SIMON CENTER

TICKETS: SinfoniaGulfCoast.org 850.460.8800

Music > The Listening Room: Records, Podcasts and More

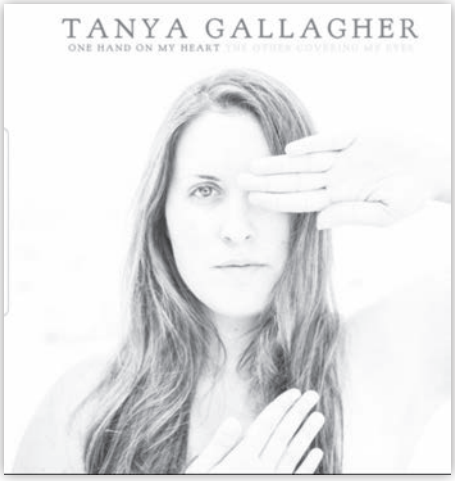
Musicians - send your CDs, vinyl and/or cassettes to Beachcomber, 543 Harbor Blvd., Suite 103, Destin, FL 32541. Email MP3s and streaming links to **chris@beachcomberdestin.com**.

SINGER-SONGWRITER

Tanya Gallagher

One Hand on My Heart

Head Above Water



Santa Rosa County musician delivers a soulful/folkie post-breakup album of considerable force, along with pop smarts. She'll be at the Coastal Branch Library in Santa Rosa Beach Wednesday, **Jan. 15,** and let's hope she plays all of these.

- Chris Manson

JAZZ

Big Band of Brothers

A Jazz Celebration of the Allman Brothers Band

New West Records

Big Band of Brothers is a 15-piece ensemble that sports notable talents—Jazz at Lincoln Center trombonist Wycliffe Gordon, former Allman Brothers guitarist Jack Pearson, and vocalists Marc Broussard and Ruthie Foster. This recording was released to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the legendary band's debut album. Nothing's as good as the original Allman Brothers, but that wasn't the point here. Not exactly a tribute album, nor a collection (they had to have struggled to pare the song list down to 10 tracks), Big Band of Brothers does what jazz does best—interprets and comments. The program styles on well-known titles like "Statesboro Blues" and "Whipping Post," and also jumps off into self-referential stuff like "Les Brers in A Minor" (Les Brers was a band formed by former Allman Brothers members in 2015).

- Bruce Collier

HARD ROCK

Bombus

Vulture Culture

Century Media

Nine tracks of Motorhead-influenced heavy metal crunch that'll pummel their way right into what's left of your heart. "Mama" is not a redo of the 1983 Genesis classic, but a stunning new anthem that'll come in handy next Mother's Day.

- Chris Manson

HOMEGROWN

Bulk.

A Faded Rose of Days Gone By

Creek Mud Records

Panama City-based Bulk. bends to the metal side of hardcore with torrential tempos and all the ferocity that defines the genre. This six-song EP is uncompromising, brutal and electrifying. It's a step forward from their debut, especially when it comes to overall production quality. You can hear the growth—all the ways the band has tightened up and are on the path to crafting a sound that is uniquely theirs. Sophomore slump avoided.

- Nikki Hedrick

Hope Given

Feathers

Independent

"I won't forget you, so please don't forget me," sings Beachcomber Music Award winner Given on "Seattle," the closing track of her five-song EP. And we would never. We will always call Given our own, no matter where her feet currently touch the ground. *Feathers* encompasses so much of what makes Given unique—her ability to story-tell and self-deprecate in relatable proportions, her knack for wordplay, and her vocal tone. May we all have Given's bravery to unlock our cages and fly towards our dreams.

- Nikki Hedrick

PODCAST ROUNDUP

Comedian Gilbert Gottfried is in Pensacola this month (see Stage section), but ***Gilbert Gottfried's Amazing Colossal Podcast*** reveals a lot more about the man than his marvelously filthy standup act. I originally landed on an episode from 2016 with longtime *MAD* magazine contributors Al Jaffee and Dick DeBartolo, which led me to a truly revelatory installment with the great Dick Van Dyke from the same year.

Mr. Gottfried is clearly enjoying himself throughout these podcasts, and it's obvious that co-host Frank Santopadre is doing his homework. Recent episodes worth checking out include a conversation with *Dolemite Is My Name* screenwriters Scott Alexander and Larry Karaszewski, and a *Blazing Saddles* 45th anniversary tribute with writers Andrew Bergman and Norman Steinberg.

For the hosts of Decibel Geek's ***Fresh Blood,*** rock 'n roll is not dead, and based on the most recent episode I'd have to agree. An hour plus of choice cuts played in full with enlightening commentary, and if nothing else, I'm eternally grateful to these guys for turning me on to Bombus.

Both of my picks are available on Spotify, which means you can probably find them on Apple Music, too.

- Chris Manson

CONNECT WITH US

facebook.com/beachcomber.destin

@BeachcomberFL

instagram.com/beachcomberdestin

Fun Facts About Southern Rock Legend Artimus Pyle

1. Mr. Pyle, born Thomas Delmer Pyle, played drums with Lynyrd Skynyrd from 1974 to 1977 and again from 1987 to 1991. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with the band in 2006.
2. His early drumming influences included Ringo Starr, Buddy Rich, Gene Krupa, and Joe Morello from the Dave Brubeck Quartet.
3. The Artimus Pyle Band is more than just a tribute to Skynyrd, it's a tribute to that band's frontman Ronnie Van Zant. "If it wasn't for Ronnie, no one would know my name," Mr. Pyle says.
4. Prior to joining Skynyrd, Mr. Pyle was a noted session drummer, playing on records by the Charlie Daniels Band and the Marshall Tucker Band.
5. Along with Mr. Pyle, the Artimus Pyle Band includes Brad Durden on vocals and keyboards, Scott Raines and Jerry Lyda on guitars, and Dave Fowler on bass. Most of the guys have been playing since the 1980s.
6. Mr. Pyle planned to publish the memoir *Street Survivor: Keeping the Beat in Lynyrd Skynyrd* in 2017, but a lawsuit has kept the book from being released "indefinitely."

The Artimus Pyle Band performs Saturday, **Jan. 25,** *at John Wehner's Village Door Music Hall in Destin. Discover more at* **ArtimusPyleBand.com.**

Musicians and venues: Email **chris@beachcomberdestin.com** to get your gigs listed here.

THURSDAY, JAN. 2

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
HAYES & HOWLAND, 5-9 PM

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
Karaoke

PALLET BAR AND GRILL, Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 6-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
CHERYL JONES, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 PM
Ladies Night

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
CHASIN' JAYMIE, 8 PM

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
TBA, 7:30-10:30 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

SLICK MICK'S, Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 6-9 PM

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
CHASIN' JAYMIE, 9 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
GUNNER

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK, Panama City Beach
THE CURRYS, 6:30-8 PM
FREE with $2 admission fee to the park. Limited to first 100 guests beginning at 5:30 PM. Food and drink available at 6.

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

DOCIE'S DOCK, Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 7-10 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
CATALYST, 8 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
JESSIE RITTER, 6 PM

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
KEVIN CARSON, 5-9 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

SLICK MICK'S, Fort Walton Beach
ROB ROMANS, 6:30 PM

SUNDAY, JAN. 5

AJ'S, Destin
JONES AND COMPANY, 4 PM (Bimini Stage)

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – TAREVA HENDERSON BOONE, et al., 11 AM

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 PM
Sunday Funday

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS, 11 AM-2 PM

ZEN GARDENS, Panama City Beach
BLIND TIGER – VOICES IN VAIN – DYNE SIDE – THE CALLOUS DAOBOYS – BULK. – INDRAJIT BANERJEE – THE JUICE IS OKAY – LOOSE BOLTS – LOYAL CUSTOMERS – MORNING TRIPS – ROTTED REMAINS, 9 AM

MONDAY, JAN. 6

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

TUESDAY, JAN. 7

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

PALLET BAR AND GRILL, Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 6-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
JB DYESS, 5-9 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

THURSDAY, JAN. 9

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
HAYES & HOWLAND, 5-9 PM

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY, Miramar Beach
GILEAH TAYLOR, 6 PM

A Musical Alliance of Metallic Proportions

Gone too soon… Beckah Brown, who will be honored by her fellow heavy musicmakers Saturday, Jan. 18, at Jimmy's Jukebox in Fort Walton Beach.

Photo by David Reiling.

By Nikki Hedrick

Once upon a time, underground music was kept alive through street teams, homemade magazines, band flyers on light posts, and word of mouth. Our connectedness through the Internet has changed the way bands get the word out, but the need for marketing remains the same.

Kerry Thibodaux is the national president and co-founder of Gulf Coast Metal Alliance (GCMA), an organization that aims to help metal bands by creating an active network of members.

According to Thibodaux, GCMA began after five perennial bands, spanning from four states, shared a Pensacola stage. KillHammer, Grimwar, Dark Star Coven, D.R.E.A.D., and Omen of Ruin began kicking around the idea of an alliance, a way to help each other and build the metal scene.

"The scene, it fluctuates, and it has for the past 20, 25 years," says Thibodaux. "So basically, what we're trying to do is make it just to where people have a bigger scene, a bigger show, and a better time. And so far, it's doing pretty well. We're going into North Carolina, Tennessee. We're talking to people in Georgia, and we're talking to people in Texas as well. It's just not about bands, it's about people that actually go to shows and support the bands."

GCMA membership is done through a vetting process, but there is no cost involved. "What we do is we filter through people, and we make sure that they are what they are, and that they want a better scene and that. We kind of have a No Douchebag or a No Asshole policy. That goes for clubs, that goes for venues, just people in general. We try not to mix what we have going with anything bad or negative."

GCMA is built on an idea of community, celebrating birthdays with metal shows and arranging a festival at Jimmy's Jukebox in Fort Walton Beach in collaboration with the online community Throat Punch Metal in March.

That concept of community also applies in the face of tragedy. Beckah Brown, the 25-year-old drummer of Ithaqua and I Like I Like, passed away unexpectedly last November.

"We've been just shaking jars at different events that we've gone to, to try and raise money for the family. Bands are going to be donating all kinds of stuff for auctions," says Thibodaux. "We're just trying to alleviate that from her family (medical and funeral expenses), because we were all family, too." The benefit is Saturday, **Jan. 18,** at Jimmy's Jukebox, starting at 2 PM.

Ithaqua bandmate **Marcus DeGagne** remembers Brown for her drive. "The four of us, including my mother Jacquelyn Maggelet, met in the lounge at Enlightened Studios. We started talking about doing joke metal covers of bands like Blink-182 and Green Day. Beckah kinda just looked at us, and plainly said, 'Look, if you guys wanna do this as a joke, I'm out. I wanna do this for real, I want to make it in music and I will literally let nothing f---ing stop me.' That's when I knew she was perfect for our band."

To learn more about GCMA and the upcoming benefit for Beckah Brown's family, visit **www.gulfcoastmetalalliance.com.**

Live Music

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
Karaoke

PALLET BAR AND GRILL, Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 6-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
CHERYL JONES, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 PM
Ladies Night

FRIDAY, JAN. 10

THE BOATHOUSE LANDING, Valparaiso
ROB ROMANS, 6 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

ELKS, Okaloosa Island
DONNIE MORGAN, 6-9 PM

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
TBA, 7:30-10:30 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
GUNNER, 9 PM

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK, Panama City Beach
BING FUTCH, 6:30-8 PM
FREE with $2 admission fee to the park. Limited to first 100 guests beginning at 5:30 PM. Food and drink available at 6.

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
THE HOODOOS, 8 PM

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
KEVIN CARSON, 5-9 PM

JIMMY'S JUKEBOX, Fort Walton Beach
NIK FLAGSTAR AND HIS DIRTY MANGY DOGS – HABITUAL OFFENDER, 9 PM-1 AM
Mr. Flagstar and his band celebrate the release of their latest album.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

SUNDAY, JAN. 12

AJ'S, Destin
JONES AND COMPANY, 4 PM (Bimini Stage)

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – TAREVA HENDERSON BOONE, et al., 11 AM

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, HarborWalkVillage.com
THE TWO HOODOOS, 2 PM
Brunch, Rhythm and Brews

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 PM
Sunday Funday

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS, 11 AM-2 PM

MONDAY, JAN. 13

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

TUESDAY, JAN. 14

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
JB DYESS, 5-9 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

THURSDAY, JAN. 16

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
HAYES & HOWLAND, 5-9 PM

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
Karaoke

Live Music

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
CHERYL JONES, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 PM
Ladies Night

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
TODD SNIDER, 8 PM

FRIDAY, JAN. 17

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
CHASIN' JAYMIE, 9 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 8 PM

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
ADAM WAKEFIELD with JENNY LEIGH, 8 PM
Singer-Songwriters Weekend

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
TBA, 7:30-10:30 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

SATURDAY, JAN. 18

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
GUNNER

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

DOCIE'S DOCK, Fort Walton Beach
ROB ROMANS, 6:30 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
GROUP THERAPY, 8 PM

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, HarborWalkVillage.com
Best of the West Jazz Competition, 11 AM-5 PM
High school bands across Northwest Florida battle it out. Intermission performance featuring **Port O'Call.**

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
KEVIN CARSON, 5-9 PM

JIMMY'S JUKEBOX, Fort Walton Beach
GONE WITH THE FLESH – DARK CON OF MAN – CHAT HOLLEY – DARK STAR COVEN – HABITUAL OFFENDER – GRIMWAR - ITHAQUA – and More, 2 PM
Beckah Brown musicians tribute. More in this issue's Music section. Brought to you by the Gulf Coast Metal Alliance and Throat Punch Metal.

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
ERIC LINDELL with ADAM WAKEFIELD, 8 PM
Singer-Songwriters Weekend

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

SUNDAY, JAN. 19

AJ'S, Destin
JONES AND COMPANY, 4 PM (Bimini Stage)

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – TAREVA HENDERSON BOONE, et al., 11 AM

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, HarborWalkVillage.com
NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE JAZZ BAND, 2 PM
Brunch, Rhythm and Brews

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
GAELIC STORM, 6 PM
Early Family Event

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 PM
Sunday Funday

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS, 11 AM-2 PM

MONDAY, JAN. 20

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

TUESDAY, JAN. 21

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS – EMERY – BAD LUCK – VAGRANTS, 5 PM

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
JB DYESS, 5-9 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

JOHN WEHNER'S
VILLAGE DOOR
MUSIC HALL

CONCERT CALENDAR

JANUARY
17 Adam Wakefield & Friends } Singer-Songwriters Weekend
18 Eric Lindell & Friends
19 Gaelic Storm - Early Family Event
24 The Steel Woods with Tennessee Jets
25 Artimus Pyle of Lynyrd Skynyrd
26 Totally 80's Featuring The Motels, BOW WOW WOW and When in Rome
31 HED PE with Special Guests Everyday Losers and Magg Dylan

FEBRUARY
07 The Original Wailers
13 The Nelson featuring Matthew and Gunnar Nelson
14 Here Come the Mummies
20 Last in Line
21 Sugarhill Gang and Furious 5th
23 New Orleans Night with Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band

MARCH
06 Tony Lewis
13 Jelly Roll
20 Geoff Tate of Queensryche - Empire 30th Anniversary Tour
21 Frank Foster
29 Pablo Cruise

APRIL
04 Exile
30 Yachtley Crew

MAY
02 Puddle of Mudd

TUES Trivia Night
THUR Karaoke

NEW DATES ADDED DAILY!

80 Seascape Drive
Destin, FL 32550

Tickets available at:
VillageDoorMusicHall.com or Ticketweb.com

Live Music

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

THURSDAY, JAN. 23

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
Karaoke

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

FRIDAY, JAN. 24

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
THE STEEL WOODS – TENNESSEE JET, 8 PM

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
TBA, 7:30-10:30 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
CITIZEN COPE, 7 PM

SATURDAY, JAN. 25

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
GUNNER, 9 PM

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK, Panama City Beach
MEAN MARY, 6:30-8 PM
FREE with $2 admission fee to the park. Limited to first 100 guests beginning at 5:30 PM. Food and drink available at 6.

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
KEVIN CARSON, 5-9 PM

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
ARTIMUS PYLE BAND, 8 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

SUNDAY, JAN. 26

AJ'S, Destin
JONES AND COMPANY, 4 PM (Bimini Stage)

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – TAREVA HENDERSON BOONE, et al., 11 AM

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, HarborWalkVillage.com
METZ BARNES & MIKE INGRAM, 2 PM
Brunch, Rhythm and Brews

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
Totally 80s Live with THE MOTELS – BOW WOW WOW – WHEN IN ROME, 7 PM

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 PM
Sunday Funday

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS, 11 AM-2 PM

MONDAY, JAN. 27

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

TUESDAY, JAN. 28

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
JB DYESS, 5-9 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

THURSDAY, JAN. 30

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
Karaoke

SAENGER THEATRE, Pensacola
TRAVIS TRITT, 6:30 PM

FRIDAY, JAN. 31

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHASIN' JAYMIE, 6 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
(HED)P.E. with Special Guests EVERYDAY LOSERS & MAGG DYLAN, 7 PM

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
TBA, 7:30-10:30 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

SATURDAY, FEB. 1

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
GUNNER, 9 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
CATALYST, 8 PM

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
KEVIN CARSON, 5-9 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

SUNDAY, FEB. 2

AJ'S, Destin
JONES AND COMPANY, 4 PM (Bimini Stage)

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – TAREVA HENDERSON BOONE, et al., 11 AM

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, HarborWalkVillage.com
PARADISE BAYOU, 2 PM
Brunch, Rhythm and Brews

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 PM
Sunday Funday

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS, 11 AM-2 PM

VILLAGE BAPTIST CHURCH, Destin
SINFONIA GULF COAST Classical Connections Concert Featuring Pianist DANIEL HSU, 7:30 PM
Tickets start at $29.50 with special pricing for students and active duty military. Purchase online at **SinfoniaGulfCoast.org** *or call the box office at 850-460-8800.*

MONDAY, FEB. 3

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
WHITNEY – CHAI, 8 PM

TUESDAY, FEB. 4

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
JB DYESS, 5-9 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

#BEACHCOMBERDESTIN

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS WITH US AND GET FEATURED HERE!

@mattwardsaltlife
Destin Boat Parade, December 2019.

@thegraffitibridge
Pensacola's Graffiti Bridge.

@liz_mcnairy
Savor the sunrise.

Seaside's Sundog Books: Still a Page Turner

By Bruce Collier

Sundog Books at Seaside is owned and operated **Linda and Bob White.** Mississippi natives, they moved here for the same reason everyone else did— the beaches—finding a home in the Grayton Beach area in 1983. Linda recently took time to talk with *Beachcomber.*

Originally, says Linda, they planned to open a restaurant, then decided against that and in favor of opening a bookstore. The first was in Miramar Beach/ Sandestin. Their friend Robert Davis asked them to open a store in Seaside, a sleepy beach community that was showing signs of growth. This was in 1986.

Sundog Books was in several Seaside locations before landing in its current home at 89 Central Square, the heart of Seaside's thriving New Urbanist landscape. The store occupies the first floor of a white pillared, Old Florida style building, with a wide front porch on which chairs are placed for the comfort of readers Originally open only from Memorial Day through Labor Day, they now do business daily from 9 AM to 9 PM, closed only on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

"We both just love books," says Linda. "We wanted to do something we enjoyed."

Their choice of the Emerald Coast's preeminent beachside community as a store location was not random, either. "Beaches and reading go hand in hand," says Linda. "Seaside is ideal—it's a walking town. People stop by, and many buy books."

The existence of a standalone, non-chain bookstore stocked with both softcover and hardcover books is something of an anomaly in these times of one-click online ordering and instant book downloads. The Whites acknowledge this, but Linda points out that there are some benefits to the old fashioned brick and mortar bookstore.

Bob White keeps current on the publishing business, follows the national book reviews (*The New York Times* and others.) and meets with publishers. The Sundog staff is made up of committed book-lovers, serious readers who can advise customers and make informed recommendations. "They (the browsers) are here on vacation," says Linda. "They have more time to browse." They "pick and choose" the stock, but Sundog can special-order books within one to two days.

Ninety-eight percent of business comes from walk-ins—women aged 40-plus predominate, and young people—but Sundog strives to maintain an online presence. The website (**Sundogbooks.com**) offers online searching and a line of Sundog Books Gear (caps, mugs, t-shirts, sweatshirts, tank tops and kids' gear), and posts notices of author book signings, book club meetings, and other literary-related events. There are two active book clubs at present, meeting morning and evening once a month.

A walk around the store indicates maximum use of space. There are tall shelves, tables and free-standing racks, with books grouped by subject, including Florida and Gulf Coast-themed books, and an impressive section devoted to kids' books. There are also calendars, cards, wrapping paper, and seasonal items.

Anyone used to shopping for books online should pay the store a visit. The placement of merchandise and low-key, library-like tranquility facilitates and encourages browsing. Linda refers to the layout of the design as "a group effort."

Though not seen at the time of the interview, the tradition of a canine namesake for the store continues. The current title-holder (Sundog the Fourth, better known as Glover) is an Australian Blue Heeler Cattle Dog. "Sundog" refers to a phenomenon of patches of light appearing beside the sun ("dogging" it), that is referenced in the film *The Deer Hunter*. The store's logo was designed by an artist friend of the Whites, who incorporated an image based on dogs depicted in ancient Egyptian art.

Sundog Books is located at 89 Central Square in Seaside. The phone number is 850-231-5481.

Goodreads? More Like Greatreads… The 2019 Book of the Year Winners

By Chris Manson

The wildly popular social media site Goodreads announced the 2019 winners for its ***11th Annual Goodreads Choice Awards*** in December. With over three million votes cast, you're sure to find a few titles to add to your New Year's reading list.

FICTION
Margaret Atwood, *The Testaments.* Sequel to *The Handmaid's Tale.*

MYSTERY & THRILLER
Alex Michaelides, *The Silent Patient*

HISTORICAL FICTION
Taylor Jenkins Reid, *Daisy Jones & The Six.* This account of a '70s rock band was also chosen as the Book of Month Club's book of the year.

FANTASY
Leigh Bardugo, *Ninth House*

ROMANCE
Casey McQuiston, *Red, White & Royal Blue*

SCIENCE FICTION
Blake Crouch, *Recursion*

HORROR
Stephen King, *The Institute.* A must, and another career milestone for our pal Steve.

HUMOR
Ali Wong, *Dear Girls: Intimate Tales, Untold Secrets, and Advice for Living Your Best Life*

NONFICTION
Rachel Hollis, *Girl, Stop Apologizing: A Shame-Free Plan for Embracing and Achieving Your Goals*

MEMOIR & AUTOBIOGRAPHY
Jonathan Van Ness, *Over the Top: A Raw Journey to Self-Love*

HISTORY & BIOGRAPHY
Hallie Rubenhold, *The Five: The Untold Lives of the Women Killed by Jack the Ripper*

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Caitlin Doughty, *Will My Cat Eat My Eyeballs? Big Questions from Tiny Mortals About Death*

FOOD & COOKBOOKS
Antoni Porowski & Mindy Fox, *Antoni in the Kitchen*

GRAPHIC NOVELS & COMICS
Rainbow Rowell & Faith Erin Hicks, *Pumpkinheads*

POETRY
Laurie Halse Anderson, *SHOUT*

DEBUT NOVEL
Casey McQuiston, *Red, White & Royal Blue*

YOUNG ADULT FICTION
Rachael Lippincott, Mikki Daughtry & Tobias Iaconis, *Five Feet Apart*

YOUNG ADULT FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION
Holly Black & Kathleen Jennings, *The Wicked King*

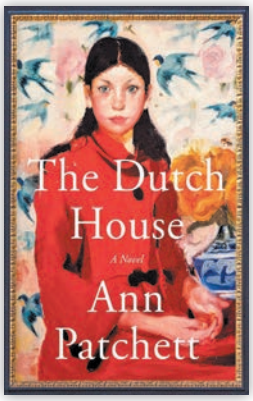
MIDDLE GRADE & CHILDREN'S
Rick Riordan, *The Tyrant's Tomb*

PICTURE BOOKS
Fred Rogers, Luke Flowers & Josie Carey, *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood: The Poetry of Mister Rogers*

Discover more at **goodreads.com.**

Recommended Reading

FICTION
Ann Patchett
The Dutch House
HarperCollins

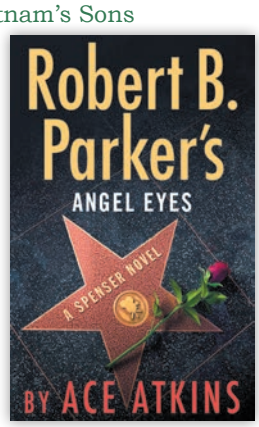


The Dutch House is a breathtakingly beautiful fairy tale-esque story about siblings Danny and Maeve. As children, their father purchases an ornate and extravagant old mansion as a surprise for their mother. The grief of having so much when others have so little overtakes their mother, prompting her to leave her family to volunteer with the poor in India. Andrea, a much younger woman who has two daughters of her own, falls in love with the house and entices Danny and Maeve's father to fall in love with her, enacting the classic "evil stepmother" trope. When their father dies, Andrea casts out Danny and Maeve to fend for themselves.

The Dutch House is a slow, weaving dysfunctional family drama spanning 50 years. The story is told from Danny's perspective as he looks back reflectively on his life, but Maeve, his captivating older sister, is the clear heroine of the novel. *The Dutch House* is enchanting and complex, with so much emotion and so much heart.

- Marilu Morgan

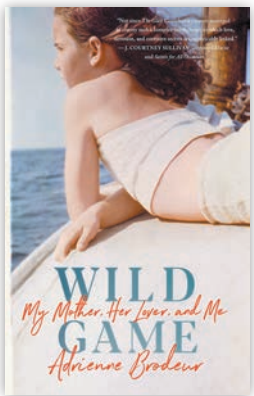
Ace Atkins
Robert B. Parker's Angel Eyes: A Spenser Novel
G.P. Putnam's Sons



The latest installment finds the legendary Boston P.I. outside his usual stomping grounds, searching for a missing young woman in El Lay with an assist from his protégé Sixkill. Will Spenser triumph over Armenian mobsters, a cult leader, and the uncooperative local cops? If you've read any of these you already know the answer, but the formula still works thanks to Mr. Atkins' witty storytelling and the spot-on Audible narration by Joe Mantegna.

- Chris Manson

NONFICTION
Adrienne Brodeur
Wild Game: My Mother, Her Lover and Me
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

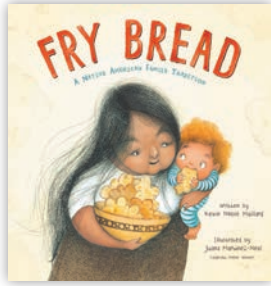


Wild Game is such an unbelievable tale, it's easy to forget this book is nonfiction. In the opening pages, author Adrienne Brodeur recounts her mother Malabar waking her at 14 years old to tell her about a kiss… between her and her husband's married best friend Ben. From then on, Brodeur serves as a confidante and accomplice in her mother's secret. *New York Times* cooking writer Malabar and sportsman Ben even orchestrate the guise of creating a cookbook together as a reason to spend more time with one another. Both families are included in the recipe testing, and while the culinary descriptions are delightful, the lovers' gall is enough to make a reader's stomach turn.

This memoir describes Brodeur's childhood and her relationship with her mesmerizing and narcissistic mother, as well as her process for coming to terms with it all.

- Marilu Morgan

CHILDREN'S FICTION
Kevin Noble Maillard and Juana Martinez-Neal
Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story
Roaring Brook Press



Fry Bread is a story told in lyrics, each verse beginning with "fry bread is…" Accompanied by beautiful illustrations, author Maillard describes the ingredients, the texture, and the taste of fry bread and then expands into more—what and who fry bread represents. He shares the history of Native American people in a way that is accessible for young children. And he powerfully celebrates Native American culture, leaving the reader feeling thoughtful, inspired, and maybe a little hungry. Thankfully, the author includes a recipe for fry bread at the end.

- Marilu Morgan

Amazon Charts

For the Week of Dec. 15, 2019

FICTION – MOST READ
1. **John Grisham, *The Guardians***
2. **J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix***
3. **J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire***
4. **J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone***
5. **J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows***

FICTION – MOST SOLD
1. **Dav Pilkey, *Dog Man: Fetch-22***
2. **Delia Owens, *Where the Crawdads Sing***
3. **John Grisham, *The Guardians***
4. **Jeff Kinney, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Wrecking Ball***
5. **Alex Michaelides, *The Silent Patient***

NONFICTION – MOST READ
1. **Malcolm Gladwell, *Talking to Strangers***
2. **Michelle Obama, *Becoming***
3. **Gregg Olsen, *If You Tell: A True Story of Murder, Family Secrets, and the Unbreakable Bond of Sisterhood***
4. **Tara Westover, *Educated***
5. **David Goggins, *Can't Hurt Me: Master Your Mind and Defy the Odds***

NONFICTION – MOST SOLD
1. **M. Prefontaine, *Difficult Riddles for Smart Kids***
2. **Malcolm Gladwell, *Talking to Strangers***
3. ***Dad Jokes: Terribly Good Dad Jokes***
4. **Crazy Corey, *Would You Rather? EWW! Edition***
5. ***I Am Confident, Brave & Beautiful: A Coloring Book for Girls***

Source: Amazon.com

Book Clubs

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15
SUNDOG DAYTIME BOOK CLUB
Bud & Alley's Pizza Bar, Seaside, 10 AM
Sundogbooks.com
January's subject of discussion is Heather Morris' *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* (2018).

THURSDAY, JAN. 16
SUNDOG SUNSET BOOK CLUB
Sundogbooks.com
Black Bear Bread Co., Grayton Beach
The club follows Oscar-winning actress **Reese Witherspoon's** monthly picks.

If your book club isn't listed here, it's because you forgot to send us the info. Make things right by emailing **chris@beachcomberdestin.com!**

Upcoming Books

JAN. 7
Michael Allred, *Bowie: Stardust, Rayguns & Moonage Daydreams*
Tim Dorsey, *Naked Came the Florida Man*
Karen M. McManus, *One of Us Is Next: The Sequel to One of Us Is Lying*
Danielle Steel, *Moral Compass: A Novel*

JAN. 14
Mike Dow, *Sugar Brain Fix: The 28-Day Plan to Quit Craving the Foods That Are Shrinking Your Brain and Expanding Your Waistline*
Anabel Hernandez, *El Traidor: Un Diaro Secreto del Hijo del Mayo.* Paperback.
Ransom Riggs, *The Conference of the Birds (Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children)*
Jocko Willink, *Leadership Strategy and Tactics: Field Manual*
Rick Wilson, *Running Against the Devil: A Plot to Save America from Trump—and Democrats from Themselves*

JAN. 21
Jeanine Cummins, *American Dirt: A Novel*
Ben Greenfield, *Boundless: Upgrade Your Brain, Optimize Your Body & Defy Aging*
Louisa Luna, *The Janes*
Jordan Raynor, *Master of One: Find and Focus on the Work You Were Created to Do*

JAN. 28
Jennie Allen, *Get Out of Your Head: Stopping the Spiral of Toxic Thoughts*
Tanis Gray, *Harry Potter Knitting Magic: The Official Harry Potter Knitting Pattern Book*

FEB. 4
Jonathan Kellerman, *The Museum of Desire*
Beth Moore, *Chasing Vines: Finding Your Way to an Immensely Fruitful Life*
Preston & Child, *Crooked River (Agent Pendergast Series)*
J.D. Robb, *Golden in Death: An Eve Dallas Novel*
Jessica Simpson, *Open Book*

Source: Amazon.com

AARP's Movies for Grownups: This Year's Nominees

By Chris Manson

The editors of *AARP* magazine announced this year's *Top Movies for Grownups,* and the awards—with host Tony Danza—will air on PBS **Jan. 19.** Three of the eight Best Picture contenders are already streaming on Netflix, which makes sense since most of *AARP*'s 50-and-older audience haven't ventured into a movie theater in at least a decade.

WATCH IT NOW—OR DON'T

The Irishman, Martin Scorsese's compelling crime epic, is up for Best Picture and is currently on Netflix. Two other nominated films—Noah Baumbach's ***Marriage Story*** and Fernando Meirelles' ***The Two Popes***—are available on the streaming service as well.

Quentin Tarantino's exhilarating ***Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood*** is currently available on DVD, Blu-ray and digital.

The other Best Picture nominees—***A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood, Bombshell, The Farewell,*** and ***Little Women***—are currently playing in theaters.

READERS' CHOICE

Ten movies are up for the honors, including seven of the eight Best Picture nominees plus ***Downton Abbey, Joker,*** and Clint Eastwood's ***Richard Jewell.*** *The Farewell* did not make the cut.

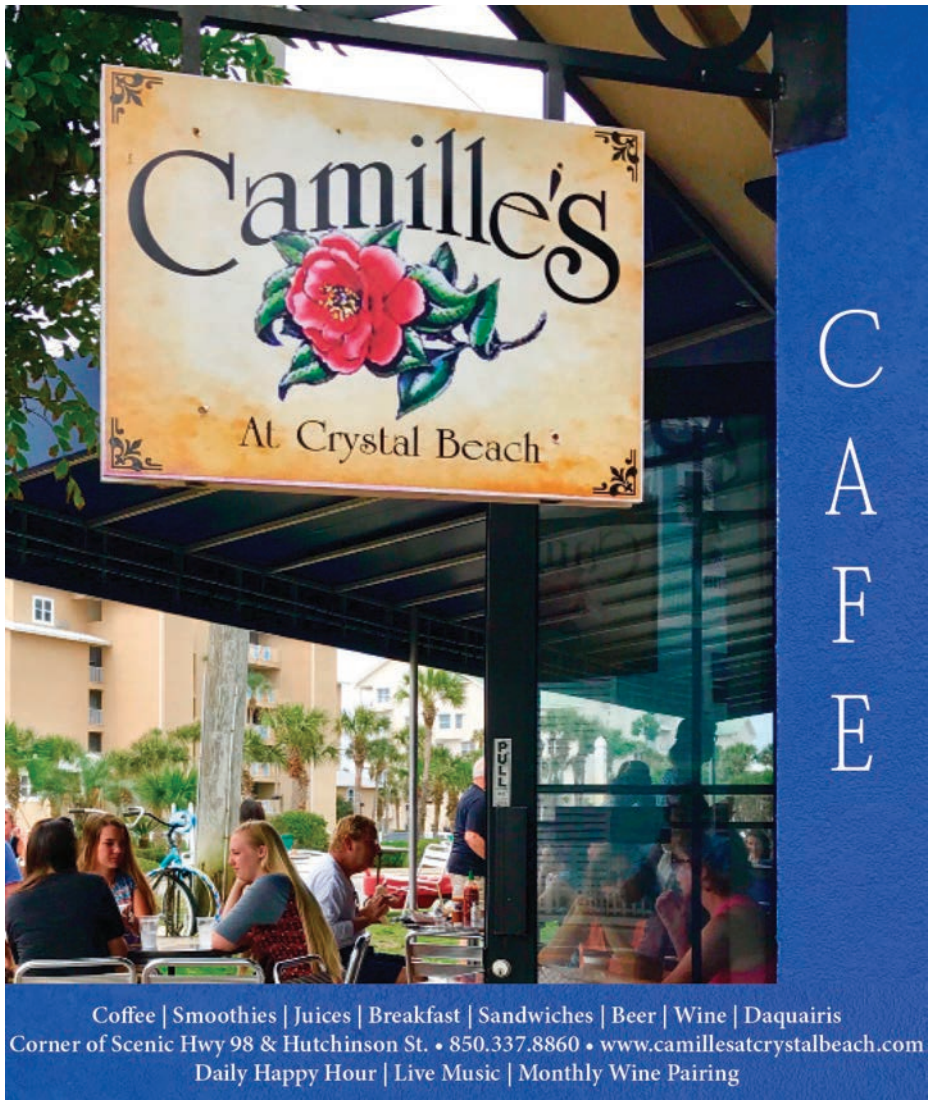
You can cast your ballot for Readers' Choice at **aarp.org/readerschoice** through **Jan. 4.**

THE BEST TAKEAWAYS

Two *Saturday Night Live* alumni are up for Best Actor—**Eddie Murphy** *(Dolemite Is My Name,* currently streaming on Netflix and highly recommended) and **Adam Sandler** *(Uncut Gems,* in theaters).

Having recently turned 50, **Jennifer Lopez** qualified for Best Actress honors. She's nominated for *Hustlers,* now on DVD/Blu-ray/etc.

Apparently Mister Rogers isn't the star of his own movie, as **Tom Hanks** is up for Best *Supporting* Actor for *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood.*



UPCOMING DVD/ BLU-RAY/VOD RELEASES

JAN. 7

Joker. Joaquin Phoenix in the feel-good movie of 2019.

The Lighthouse. Acclaimed drama with Willem Dafoe and Robert Pattinson.

JAN. 14

Gemini Man. Will Smith stars with Will Smith, and apparently they didn't get along during the shoot. The usually dependable Ang Lee directed this flop.

Malificent: Mistress of Evil. Cursed princesses, horned fairies, and Disney's most notorious villain.

JAN. 21

The Addams Family. Animated reboot of Charles Addams' classic characters.

Black and Blue. Rookie Naomie Harris captures a murder by corrupt cops, and all hell breaks loose.

Zombieland: Double Tap. Woody Harrelson and the gang are back to fight the undead.

JAN. 28

Harriet. Crowd-pleasing turn on the story of American freedom fighter Harriet Tubman.

Parasite. One of 2019's best-reviewed films, and our own Charles Morgan said it was great, too.

Terminator: Dark Fate. Linda Hamilton, Arnold Schwarzenegger.

DEC. 4

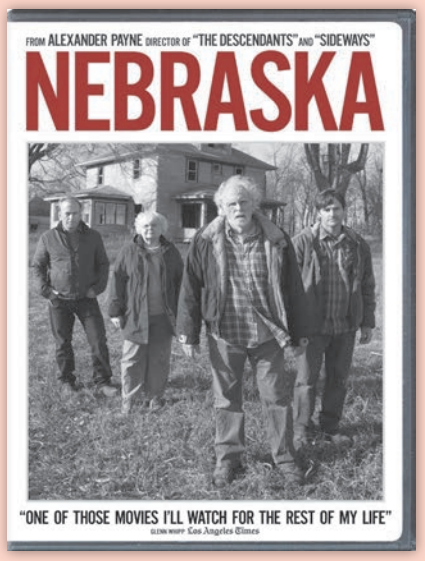
Doctor Sleep. Adaptation of Stephen King's sequel to *The Shining.*

Source: Metacritic.com

LOCAL FILM SCREENINGS

TUESDAY, JAN. 28

ALEXANDER PAYNE'S "NEBRASKA"
Walton County Coastal Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 9:45 AM
850-267-2809



FREE screening of the superb Bruce Dern film, in which the veteran actor plays an old geezer who's convinced he's won a sweepstakes. Will Forte is excellent as the befuddled son. Bring a dish to share during the movie if you like.

OPENING SOON IN THEATERS

JAN. 3

The Grudge. Ring in the new year with a substandard haunted house movie.

JAN. 10

The Informer. Clive Owen, Rosamund Pike, Joel Kinnaman.

Like a Boss. Tiffany Haddish, Rose Byrne, Salma Hayek.

My Spy. A hardened CIA operative is forced to give spy lessons to a precocious nine-year-old girl.

JAN. 17

Bad Boys for Life. Will Smith and Martin Lawrence, together again.

Dolittle. Robert Downey Jr. talks to the animals.

JAN. 24

Color Out of Space. Nicolas Cage as a farmer battling a mutant alien, and who wouldn't want to see that?

Source: Metacritic.com

Upcoming Shows...and More

SUNDAY, JAN. 5

GILBERT GOTTFRIED
Saenger Theatre, Pensacola, 4 PM
850-595-3880
The comedian and co-host of *Gilbert Gottfried's Amazing Colossal Podcast* takes the stage. Tickets available from Ticketmaster.

THURSDAY, JAN. 16

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S STORYTELLERS: BRUCE COLLIER IN "WINSTON CHURCHILL: THROUGH THE STORM"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org
The longtime *Beachcomber* contributor performs his acclaimed one-man show. Over brandy and cigars, Churchill reminisces about his life, the war, and the future.

Tickets are $30 for adults, with senior, military and student discounts available. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

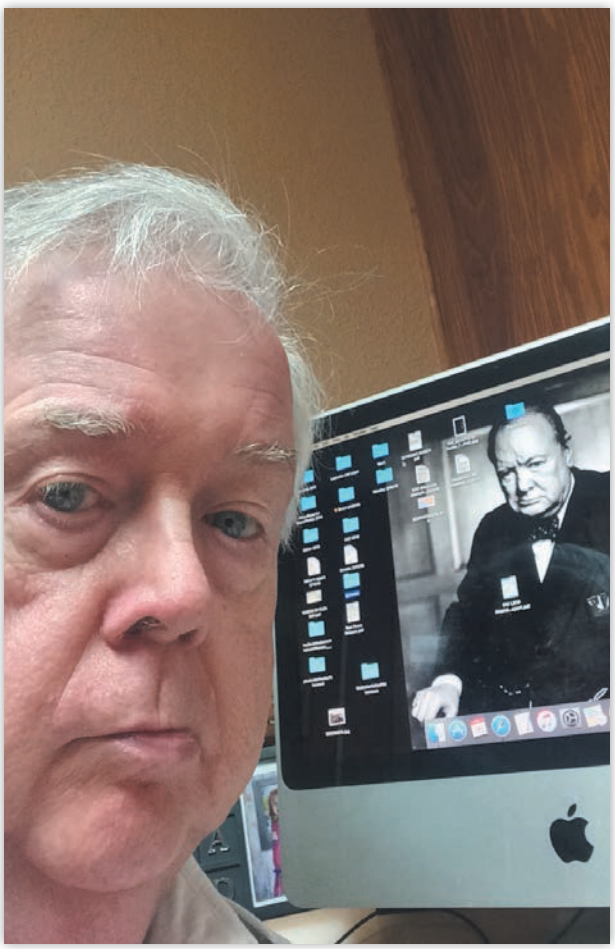
THURSDAY, JAN. 23-SATURDAY, JAN. 25

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "BUYER & CELLAR"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org
Jonathan Tolins' one-man comedy about an underemployed Los Angeles actor who goes to work in Barbra Streisand's basement. Winner of 2014-15 Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Solo Show.

Tickets are $32 for adults, with senior, military and student discounts available. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

SATURDAY, JAN. 25

ACT4MYSTERY'S "MURDER BY MERLOT"
Samuel's Roadhouse, Crestview, Seating at 6 PM, Dinner and Show at 6:30
Act4Mystery.com
Paula Hilton and her award-winning troupe return to the scene of the crime, as the Frudee Family Winery's latest wine-tasting event is disrupted by a most unexpected and unwelcome guest… and someone is going to die! Cost for dinner and show is $38 per person, tax and gratuity included. VIP packages available.



Oldman, schmoldman… our own Bruce Collier owns the role of Winston Churchill!

SUNDAY, JAN. 26

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "BUYER & CELLAR"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 2 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

THURSDAY, JAN. 30

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S STORYTELLERS: JASON HEDDEN IN "RESURRECTING VAN GOGH"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org
Actor-playwright-comedian-professor Hedden performs his original work based on the life of Andy Martin, a medical student who conducted groundbreaking research on sinonasal undifferentiated carcinoma, the rare cancer that eventually took Martin's life. The production includes a short documentary and Q&A session.

Tickets are $30 for adults, with senior, military and student discounts available. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

THURSDAY, FEB. 6

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S STORYTELLERS: DARRYL REUBEN HALL IN "DINNER WITH BOOKER T"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org
Through song and dance, writer and star Hall recalls the joys and racial aftermath of Booker T. Washington's 1901 dinner at the White House.

Tickets are $30 for adults, with senior, military and student discounts available. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

STORYTELLER SERIES

ALL EVENTS IN THE SERIES WILL BEGIN AT 7PM

January 9th
Gileah Taylor: A Life Lived in Song
Don't miss this one night only event as Gileah breathes new life into her favorite songs on stage at Emerald Coast Theatre Company.

January 16th
Winston Churchill: Through the Storm
Over brandy and cigars Churchill reminisces about his personal and public life, the war, and the possible future.

January 30th
Resurrecting van Gogh
Resurrecting van Gogh is a play based on the life, work and writings of Andy Martin.

February 6th
Dinner with Booker T.
Booker T. Washington became the first Negro to dine at the White House. Through song and dance, multiple characters are portrayed in this solo show in which Mr. Washington recalls the joys and racial aftermath of this infamous dinner.

ECTC emerald coast theatre company

Performances will be at 560 Grand Blvd, upstairs.

GRAND BOULEVARD Sandestin TOWN CENTER

Howard HOSPITALITY

Tickets or info, call 850-684-0323 or visit
EMERALDCOASTTHEATRE.ORG

BUYER & CELLAR

ECTC emerald coast theatre company

JANUARY 23RD - 26TH
Jonathan Tolins has concocted an irresistible one-man play from the most peculiar of fictitious premises—an underemployed Los Angeles actor goes to work in Barbra Streisand's Malibu, CA basement.

Performances will be at 560 Grand Blvd, upstairs.

GRAND BOULEVARD Sandestin TOWN CENTER

Howard HOSPITALITY

Tickets or info, call 850-684-0323 or visit
EMERALDCOASTTHEATRE.ORG

Shelter House Fundraiser to Feature Mother-Daughter Artists

Tickets are now on sale for Shelter House's ***4th Annual Palate & Palette Dinner,*** to be held **Feb. 1** at Legendary Marine's showroom in Destin. This year's featured artists—two, count 'em, *two*—are a unique mother-daughter duo, Kathy and Krista Schumacher. At the end of the evening, both artists' paintings will be auctioned off to the highest bidder in an exciting and competitive live auction.

The event is presented by Compass Builders, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office, and Melissa Hines with Empowered Financial Strategies.

This chic, pop-up style wine dinner transforms Legendary Marine's showroom into a chic, intimate venue with a trendy, metropolitan feel. Attendees will indulge in a five-course seated dinner featuring five of the area's most respected chefs. Each chef will create a dish for their course, and Elite Worldwide Imports will be on hand selecting fine wines to pair with each dish.

Additionally, local distillery Timber Creek will offer craft cocktails, and Grayton Beer Company will feature their brews throughout the night. B-Boy Productions' live DJ will command the music for the event, floating high above the dining area aboard one of the newest bay cruising yachts. Guests can preserve memories in the Epic Photo Booth and explore the expansive silent auction offering prize packages including fishing trips, restaurant experiences, custom art, spa packages and more.

Shelter House proudly announces the culinary lineup for the 2020 Palate & Palette Dinner: Camille Withall, executive chef, George's at Alys Beach; Dan Pettis, executive chef and owner, One20 a Modern Bistro; Giovanni Filippone, executive chef and partner, Mama Clemenza's European Breakfast; Jack McGuckin, executive chef and owner, Bijoux Restaurant & Spirits; and Tyler McMahan, executive chef, Shunk Gulley Oyster Bar 30A.

The Schumachers specialize in palette knife oil painting. Although they call Niceville their hometown, their work has been featured across the nation, most recently at an exhibition in partnership with Ferrari San Diego. While they both use the palette and knife technique, their subject style is quite different.

Kathy's subject matter is diverse, and includes animals, landscapes, people, and dynamic florals. Her work is exhibited at several art shows throughout the country and galleries.

Krista's artwork catapulted her to live and work in La Jolla, California. She was named one of the Top 21 Artists Under the Age of 31 by *Southwest Art Magazine* and is the 2018 Launchpad Artist for Art San Diego. Her subject matter focuses primarily on abstracts and landscapes.

Tickets for the event are $125 per person and can be purchased online at **850tix.com.** All proceeds benefit Shelter House, the state-certified domestic and sexual violence center serving both Okaloosa and Walton counties. Ticket pricing will increase to $140 per person Monday, **Jan. 27.**

For information on sponsorship, contact the Shelter House team at 850-243-1201 or email **sponsors@shelterhousenwfl.org.**

ART CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY (ADSO) Classes at the Art Center, Fort Walton Beach. More info at **artsdesignsociety.org.**

Mondays and Wednesdays. Clay and Pottery Open Studio, 9 AM-noon both days and 6:30-9 PM Mondays. Beginners welcome. Cost for morning classes with **Pat Basque and Sherry Cooler** is $15 ($12 for ADSO members). Cost for Monday evening class with **Marcy Eady** is $15 ($12 for ADSO members). Materials and firing included.

Tuesdays. Art for Children Ages 6-12, 4-5:30 PM. **Marcy Eady** teaches about the masters and their styles using principles of basic drawing, painting and sculpture. Media vary each week. Cost per month is $70 ($60 for ADSO members). All supplies included.

Tuesdays. Oil Painting with Dale Gauvin, 9 AM-1 PM. Learn the Chiaroscuro technique favored by the old masters. Cost is $90 ($80 for ADSO members).

Tuesdays. Open Studio, 7-9:30 PM. Bring your own supplies (no pottery) and work with other Beachcomberland artists. Cost is $12 ($10 for ADSO members). Call Marcy at 850-585-4967 by 5:30 p.m. to ensure access.

Jan. 9. Sip and Paint Class with Hannah Flynn, 6:30-8:30 PM. Cost is $40, $25 for ADSO members, all supplies included. The theme of this particular session is "Happy New Year, Koi and Lotus," since both the fish and flowers are symbols of prosperity and good fortune for the New Year. Bring your sip of choice and enhance your skills.

Jan. 15. Pottery with a Purpose Workshop with Charlotte Snyder, 5:30-7:30 PM. Cost is $20 ($17 for ADSO members) and includes materials and firing. The workshop is geared towards teaching basic pottery skills for beginners.

CHROMA STUDIO & GALLERY, 3925 West County Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach. Call 1-844-5-CHROMA or visit **www.CHROMA30A.com** for more info.

DE'FRANCE INDOOR FLEAMARKET, ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES, 230 Eglin Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-314-7500 to register. More info at **defranceantiques.com.**

Jan. 23. Furniture Painting Workshop, 5:30-7:30 PM. Bring an end table, small dresser, foyer table, etc. and Mark will help you complete your piece using Maison Blanche Vintage Furniture Paint. Workshop fee is $75 and includes all paint, sandpaper, wax and personal instruction.

Jan. 24. Sign Painting Workshop, 6:30-9 PM. Join Anissa from Vintij Beach, and choose from one of her many signs…or have her create a custom sign just for you. Cost is $40 for a standard sign ($50 for standard double board) and $50 for a custom sign single board ($60 for double board). Advance payment requested.

HERITAGE MUSEUM OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA, 115 Westview Avenue, Valparaiso. Call 850-678-2615 or visit **Heritage-Museum.org** to sign up or for more info.

HH ARTS, 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-218-2155 to register for classes.

Jan. 15, 22 and 19. Thalia's Mosaic Class Featuring Lanterns, 10 AM-2:30 PM. Cost for the three weeks is $85 per person, all supplies include. Bring lunch, and your own lantern if you like. Make your reservation by **Jan. 10** by emailing **thalia5@cox.net.**

Jan. 16. Viking Knit with Teddie Ciudad-Real, 10 AM-finish. Supplies included for only $35 per person. Reservations required—email **teddiec@mac.com** or call the gallery.

THE SHARD SHOP in the Shops of Grayton, Grayton Beach. ShardWorx is a new way of making art with glass and resin on a painted surface. Open Mon.-Sat., 9:15 AM-4 PM. Classes daily. Adult classes, 9:30 AM. All ages classes at 11 AM, 1:30 and 3 PM Classes last about an hour, and all materials are provided. Artwork is ready the day after class. All skill levels welcome. Adults start at $85, kids at $40. Sign up online at **ShardShop.com** or call 850-231-0544.

VELIA LALA DESIGNS, 310 Eglin Parkway, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-362-6204 for more info.

ART EVENTS

THROUGH JAN. 31. ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY (ADSO) WINDOW GALLERY DISPLAY AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH
January's featured artist is **Wally Ratcliffe,** whose works include acrylic and watercolor paintings, mixed media, and collages.

THROUGH JAN. 31. DOROTHY STARBUCK EXHIBIT AT THE COASTAL BRANCH LIBRARY, SANTA ROSA BEACH
Dorothy Starbuck was born in Miami, where she developed a passion for painting the natural beauty of her beloved tropical state. She now resides in Point Washington near the dunes and beaches of the Gulf.

At the age of six, Ms. Starbuck was bedridden for a year. Unable to do much of anything else, she entertained herself with books and drawing. When the time came to finally get up and go outside again, it was pure joy.

Even though she loved art and drawing as a child, she didn't start painting until age 30. She took an oil painting class and has been painting off and on ever since, taking classes and attending workshops along the way. One of Ms. Starbuck's favorite teachers was Graham Ingles, renowned illustrator and historical painter, who helped her bring life and depth to her paintings.

In the artist's frequent trips throughout Florida, she searches for remote, undisturbed areas which provide inspiration for her paintings. Her hope is that her paintings will preserve a moment in time that is transitory and fragile, evoking cherished memories with the viewer and an appreciation of Florida's disappearing natural beauty.

Dorothy Starbuck is a member of the Cultural Arts Alliance, Women's Art Network, and Emerald Coast Plein Air Painters of Walton County.

THROUGH FEB. 14. ROSEMARY BEACH SCULPTURE EXHIBITION
The second biennial juried art show of contemporary outdoor sculpture along Scenic Highway 30A includes 16 sculptures by 16 artists. More at **rosemarybeachsculpture.com.**

OPENS JAN. 7. ADSO MEMBERSHIP SHOW AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH
Members show off their favorite work. Reception scheduled for Friday, **Jan. 10.** More info at **artsdesignsociety.org.**

OPENS. JAN. 28. ADSO'S "DRUNK IN LOVE SHOW" AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH
Artists interpret the crazy things people do for you-know-what**.**

ART GALLERIES

ADARO ART features works from 2015 South Walton Artist of the Year Juan Francisco Adaro, as well as other well-known local and international artists. Open daily from 10 AM to 5 PM. Located at 21 Hub Lane, Watersound, 561-985-5767. Email **adaro.art@gmail.com** or visit **adaroart.com** for more info.

ARTFUL THINGS Original oils, watercolors and acrylics, as well as prints and note cards by local artists. Art classes, supplies and custom framing available. 1087 John Sims Pkwy., Niceville, 850-729-2600. **www.artfulthings.net.**

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY Features art shows by local and regional artists. Open afternoons Tuesday through Saturday. Shows change monthly. Art classes and workshops in various media. 17 First Street SE, Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-1271. **www.artsdesignsociety.org**.

CHROMA STUDIO & GALLERY features the art of South Walton's 2018 Artist of the Year **Kathleen Broaderick**. Browse Kathleen's original oil paintings in the gallery or take a boutique paint class in Kathleen's studio. Kathleen offers oil painting workshops featuring her energetic, loose and colorful style, as well as acrylic paint classes for artists and non-artists alike. The CHROMA Studio & Gallery is a place where guests will feel comfortable expressing themselves and finding joy in art. CHROMA is located at 3925 West County Highway 30A in Santa Rosa Beach (just west of Goatfeathers restaurant). Visit **www.CHROMA30A.com** or call 1-844-5-CHROMA for more information.

HH ARTS offers works for sale from local artists in all mediums. There are many award-winning artists displayed in oil, acrylic, encaustic, collage, clay, handmade candles, and handmade jewelry designs in glass, leather and Victorian style. Studio space available for artists at reasonable rates. An outdoor area is also available for plein air painting or classes, with lighting and overhead covering. There will be classes offered for children and adults. Located at 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach (three blocks off 98, across from Troy University). Open Tue.-Sat., 10 AM- 3 PM. For more info, call 850-218-2155 and "like" HH Arts on Facebook. Follow us on Instagram.

THE JUSTIN GAFFREY GALLERY features the coastal contemporary paintings and sculptures of local artist Justin Gaffrey. Visit the gallery to browse through Justin's coastal landscape, floral, and still-life paintings or stroll through the sculpture garden to view the various welded steel sculptures. Justin is most recognized for his heavily textured, heavy bodied acrylic, palette knife paintings of the local landscape, florals, and wildlife. The Justin Gaffrey Gallery is located at 21 Blue Gulf Drive along Scenic highway 30A in Blue Mountain Beach. Visit **justingaffrey.com** or stop by the gallery Monday through Saturday from 10 AM to 6 PM. Follow the Justin Gaffrey Gallery on Facebook and Instagram to see Justin's most recent creations.

MARY HONG GALLERY Located in Grayton Beach (Shops of Grayton). **Mary Hong**, the 2014 South Walton Artist of the Year, has been featured in over 10 publications and has appeared on Emeril's Florida TV show and HGTV's House Hunters. Mary's take on glass art incorporates the use of repurposed glass on painted canvas. Gallery is open seven days a week. 850-231-1416. **MaryHongStudio.com**

MATTIE KELLY ART GALLERIES AT NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE The Arts Center Galleries at Northwest Florida State College in Niceville encompass two galleries showcasing 20 different international, national and regional exhibitions yearly, which are unique to this region. Viewing hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 AM to 4 PM. Visit **www.mattiekellyartscenter.org** or call 850-729-6044.

THE SHARD SHOP is a friendly, Make-Your-Own-Art Boutique with three locations: Grayton Beach (Shops of Grayton), Destin (next to Ulta and Michaels), and—during summers only—the Village of Baytowne Wharf. ShardWorx is a new way of making art with glass and resin on a painted surface. Visit **ShardShop.com** to sign up online and view class schedules. Classes are daily, last about an hour, and all materials are provided. Artwork is ready the day after class. Visit us for events, art parties and fundraising! All skill levels welcome. Adults start at $85, kids at $40. Sign up online at **ShardShop.com**, or call Grayton at 850-231-0544 or Destin at 850-842-4440.

VELIA LALA DESIGNS features works from award-winning Velia Lala as well as other local artists working in a multitude of mixed media. The Design Center is one of the few unique gift boutiques left in our area. As well as showcasing her art and that of others, Velia has a great selection of her art printed textile line, clothing and hand embellished jackets. Velia Lala Designs has expanded their offerings this year to include "The Art of Walls," which is a form of creating faux finishes for those one of a kind special accent walls or entire room changes. The biggest part of the Design Center houses her two studio spaces where you'll find Velia creating her own art as well as conducting ongoing art classes for the public. 310 Eglin Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, 850-362-6204.

THE ZOO GALLERY Created in 1979. Locally owned small business. We focus on quality, handcrafted work by hardworking artists. Our galleries showcase an eclectic range of curated artwork from all over the country, a jewelry collection like no other, plus unique clothing lines for women with soul. We keep a sense of wonder. We stand out from the herd. Located in Grayton Beach across from the Red Bar and in Grand Boulevard at Sandestin. **#standoutfromtheherd thezoogallery.com**

CALL TO ARTISTS

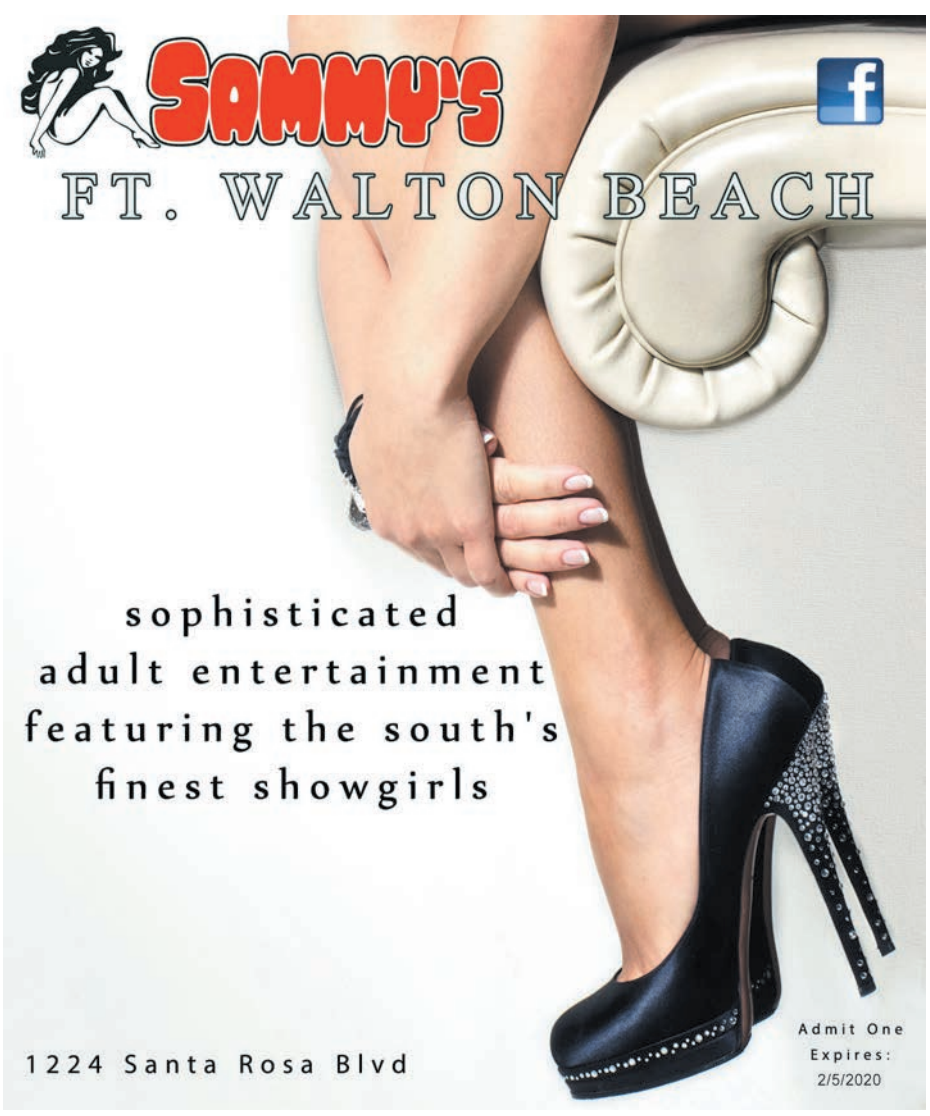
Arts and Design Society's "Drunk on Love" Show
All artists are encouraged to submit work reflecting "the crazy things folks do for love." Cash awards! Turn in work Saturday, **Jan. 25,** 1-4 PM, and Monday, **Jan. 27,** 9 AM-noon. The show runs **Jan. 28-Feb. 19.** Copy of entry form and additional details at **artsdesignsociety.org.**

Artist Sarah Nair, whose mixed media creation "Hover the Rainbow" earned an honorable mention at the Arts and Design Society's recent Dreamscapes show.
Photo submitted by Tuny Jennings.

Beachcomber

THE LOCAL GUIDE TO MUSIC, ART, DINING, EVENTS & MORE

Want your business listed in Beachcomber?
Contact Lori@beachcomberdestin.com



Answer This!

Finding Love in Paradise and 2020 Visions

By Dawn Bright

Where do single guys in their 50s hide in Destin? I go to restaurants, clubs, local events, churches, the gym, stores and the beach. There are many thirtysomethings and retirement age, but never anyone in my age range. Please suggest some cool places to try that are friendly and inviting—and popular with—this difficult age group.

- Not a Snowbird Yet, Destin

Well, "Not a Snowbird Yet," I understand your frustration. When I was in my 50s I tried several online dating sites where I did meet a few men I liked enough to go out with. But I didn't meet "the one" until I got involved with a local theater troupe, which is something I love. So my suggestion is to join something you either already love doing or would like to start doing.

I play a lot of golf, for instance, and I always see a ton of single 50-something men on the course. You could join a specific country club if you golf, and participate in their sponsored activities. Or if you like to dance, there are dance classes available to learn things like line dancing and swing dancing. People show up solo for these and are paired up to learn to dance.

If you did use Facebook, you'd find they now have a million different groups you can join that are specific to your own hobbies, and can be tailored to your general location as well. Stick to things you enjoy, and hopefully you'll find men in your age range you can do things with. Best of luck!

Here I sit in the dark at 4:45 in the afternoon in the Sunshine State. Sigh. Makes me sad, along with all the others abandoning their boats and beach chairs too soon. When will we be true to our name and end this ridiculous "falling back"? Also curious if you reply to everyone that writes to you, or only the worthies that make the *Beachcomber*?

- Stan J., Destin

The editor of the *Beachcomber* forwards questions to me, and I am given free range on selecting which ones I'd like to answer. My criteria is that it needs to be an interesting question that other people can relate to. And your question falls into that category.

I wrote about this issue last fall. A bill was introduced by Senator Marco Rubio to make Daylight Saving Time permanent year-round. Florida legislature passed the bill, but we cannot make the change without federal approval. So on March 6 of this year, the Senator—along with Rick Scott and US. Representative Vern Buchanan—re-introduced the bill titled the Sunshine Protection. If this passes, the legislation would apply to all states that participate in Daylight Saving Time. I agree with you that this is ridiculous, and am keeping my fingers crossed this is the last time we'll be setting those clocks back.

I'm usually a pretty happy-go-lucky person but I've discovered as we get into 2020, I'm feeling dread and depression. Why is that? Is it just the weirdness of that number?

- Susan D., Destin

Depression is a difficult topic, Susan, because it effects everyone differently. I suggest counseling to help you deal with these feelings. Don't let them get the better of you. Depression is fast becoming an epidemic and can be crippling, so get some help and let the professionals help you back to your happy-go-lucky outlook!

Dawn Bright is a longtime resident of the Emerald Coast and an eternal optimist. And that's pretty much all you need to know about her. Email your questions to **office@beachcomberdestin.com.**

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL NONPROFITS

"Helping People Help Themselves"

Tri-County Community Council, Inc.

Helping People Help Themselves

TriCountyCommunityCouncil.com

Horrorscopes

AQUARIUS
JAN. 21 - FEB. 19

It's still winter, Aquarius, but it's time for you to let the sunshine in. Open your eyes, open your heart, and open your pocketbook! Make a generous donation to a small local charity and feel your heart swell. Because if you don't, and you continue your trademarked selfish behavior, I see a darkness coming down on you that may never lift.

ARIES
MAR. 21 - APR. 20

There is no indication your fantastic life is going to change, Aries. You continue to motivate everyone you come into contact with and inspire all with your magical existence. Close Encounters for you are never the Third Kind…they're the BEST kind. Lucky, lucky Aries. 2020 is going to rock for you, just like it always does!

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Trying to put my finger on what exactly is wrong with you, Gemini, but it's not just one thing. It's lots of things. It's those lists. Your ongoing crises and chaos. Your unrealistic approach to life. The unimaginative way you approach problems. Your inability to complete anything. And there's more. Lots more. Please take some time for self-analysis. I'm begging you.

LEO
JULY 23 - AUG. 23

I was seriously hoping to start 2020 off with good news for you, Leo, but it's just not going to happen. You know when you're in the middle of a heated, passionate argument and all of a sudden you realize you are dead wrong? That kind of sums up how January is going to go. Dead wrong on a dead end. So buckle up.

LIBRA
SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23

There's a celestial phenomenon going on with you this month that spells out phenomenal! You will be pelted with happiness, goodness and joy. Your good nature will shine out for all to see. You will sparkle like the sun. You will soar like the wind. Everything you attempt will take off like a bird in flight. Lucky, lucky Libra. 2020 is going to rock for you, just like it always does.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV. 23 - DEC. 21

This month is going to break you out of your normal disastrous pattern and get you out of your own way. Because you are and always have been what's holding you back. The timing is perfect, and so are the stars, for a fresh start and new look at life. Be careful with electronic devices though, and stay away from anything with a "3" in it.

PISCES
FEB. 20 - MAR. 20

I wish I could help you, Pisces, but a coward is shivering inside you, and it's shivering so hard the entire world can see it. That sort of removes any kind of confidence others might have in you. It's painfully obvious your low self-esteem has taken over your life completely this month. Maybe when the warm weather hits, your shivering will cease.

TAURUS
APR. 21 - MAY 21

Abraham Lincoln put it best when he stated, "Better to remain silent and be thought a fool, than to speak and remove all doubt." This is certainly going to be true for you this month, Taurus. So it just goes without saying. But I'll say it anyway—sit down and keep your mouth shut.

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 22

It's time to get away from this fascination with your nonexistent love life. The planets are colliding and the message is clear…you are going to be a loner for a while. You will roam this earth a solo player. No partners, no lovers, no companions, no friends. Just suck it up and let's see what happens next month. This collision can't last forever. Hopefully.

VIRGO
AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23

The year ended well for you, Virgo, and it appears 2020 is going to start off on a high note as well. Something about your apparent magnitude having a positive effect on your chromosphere. Which doesn't happen very often, my friend. So take advantage! Pledge allegiance to yourself. And give yourself a big pat on the back for your numerous accomplishments. 'Cause this won't last forever.

SCORPIO
OCT. 24 - NOV. 22

Patience is the name of the game this month, Scorpio. Keep your eyes open for slow-growing opportunities, and you're going to find your game changer! The stars are lined up in an asterism that you can clearly see in the night sky. All month long. IF you take your time and practice some patience.

CAPRICORN
DEC. 22 - JAN. 20

With an unpleasant and unlucky 2019 behind you, I highly recommend you refrain from looking back. Keep your eyes gazing straight forward, right into the future. If this month's star-studded lineup is any indicator of what's to come, you have a lot to look forward to. But again, no looking back. If you do, all that bad luck may catch right back up to you.

Index to Beachcomber Advertisers

A special thanks to all of our advertisers for their support. Please do business with them often, and thank them for making your FREE entertainment magazine possible!

3 ..... Act4Mystery
7 ..... Camille's at Crystal Beach
34 ..... Camille's Cafe
31 ..... Chuck's Fish
19 ..... De'France Indoor Fleamarket Antiques & Collectibles
11 ..... Dewey Destin's Seafood Restaurant
18 ..... Emerald Coast Science Center
35 ..... Emerald Coast Theatre Company
15 ..... FIVE Restaurant
13 ..... Harbor Docks
40 ..... HarborWalk Village
29 ..... John Wehner's Village Door Music Hall
10 ..... La Paz
7 ..... Lee Buick
12 ..... The Local Market
30 ..... Rob Romans
2 ..... Saltwater Restaurants
38 ..... Sammy's
25 ..... Sinfonia Gulf Coast
4 ..... Steve Ingram
18 ..... WUWF

Winter EVENTS

BRUNCH, RHYTHM AND BREWS
SUNDAYS | JANUARY 12 - FEBRUARY 23

Enjoy brunch & brews at Harry T's, Jackacudas, and Margaritaville with a live concert on the main stage at 2:00pm.
Jan 12: The Two HooDoos
Jan 19: Northwest Florida State College Jazz Band
Jan 26: Metz Barnes and Mike Ingram
Feb 2: Paradise Bayou | Feb 9: The Two HooDoos
Feb 16: Bobby D Duo | Feb 23: Joe Fingas

BEST OF THE WEST JAZZ COMPETITION
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 | 11:00am - 5:00pm

High School Bands across Northwest Florida battle to be Best of the West! Intermission performance featuring Port O'Call.

MARDI GRAS BIG EASY BAR CRAWL
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 | 6:30pm

Dress in your Mardi Gras best for a bingo style bar crawl! Pick up bingo cards at 6:30pm & turn in back by 9:30pm for raffle drawing! Compete for the title of Mardi Gras King & Queen at Coyote Ugly starting at 10:00pm.

MARDI GRAS PARADE & PAWDI GRAS
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22 | 2:00pm

Live music by Fais Do-Do at 2:00pm followed by beads, dazzling floats, and street performers as the parade rolls at 4:00pm. Enter your pup in a spirited Pawdi Gras Pet Costume contest following the parade! Registration at 5:00pm.
Do you and your Krewe want to be in the parade?
Email events@harborwalkvillage.com for more information.

HARBORWALK VILLAGE

Coca-Cola | ELITE JEEPS, INC. | EMERALD GRANDE at HARBORWALK VILLAGE | TRULY SPIKED & SPARKLING | SAINT ARCHER BREWING COMPANY

Foot of the Destin Bridge 850-424-0600 HarborWalkVillage.com #hwvdestin